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THE
BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

CONTAINING

COMMUNICATIONS, ORIGINAL
AND SELECTED.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

POETRY.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

REVIEW OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

FOREIGN, ANCIENT, AND MODERN
LITERATURE.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS
IN ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICALS.

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AGRICULTURAL.....REPORT.

COMMERCIAL.....

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CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

If by the encroachments of power, or the supineness or venality of the conductors of the Press, THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS be lost, all other liberty will soon follow. IT IS THE SAFEGUARD OF FREEDOM.

VOL. VI.

FROM JANUARY TILL JUNE, 1811.

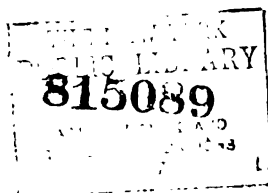
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1811.



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J. B. W.
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THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 30.]

JANUARY 31, 1811.

[Vol. 6.]

COMMUNICATIONS ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON IRISH TIMBER.

THE traveller who has had an opportunity of viewing the productions of nature in various regions, must be struck with the contrast between the wonderful luxuriance of Tropical vegetation, and that which takes place after passing the boundaries of the temperate zones. Adamson found on the banks of the Senegal, several trees from 65 to 78 feet in circumference, and braving the tremendous convulsions of a thousand years; the great chesnut of Mount Etna, whose trunk of 204 feet in circumference, and ample shade, seems placed on the confines of ice and flame, in order to exhibit the various powers of nature. To these we may oppose the dwarf willow, with a stem of only two or three inches the only woody species of plant hitherto discovered in the inhospitable regions of Spitzbergen.

In England a sweet chesnut has grown in Hertfordshire, to 42 feet in circumference, and another at Trotworth, in Glocestershire to 44 feet 4 inches. The Cowthorpe oak, near Weiberby, Yorkshire, to 48 feet; Boddington oak, in the vale of Gloucester, to 42 feet, and another at Broomfield Park, in the year 1764, measured 68 feet in girth.

And notwithstanding the many arguments which have been advanced to the contrary, the following instances seem to prove satisfac-

torily, that Ireland is capable of producing large timber. In the year 1793, there was cut down on the estate of Wm. Hoey, esq. at Dunganstown, three chesnuts, one of which measured 16 feet 6 inches, another 15 feet, and a third 14 feet 3 inches in girth; the length of one was 24 feet, and the other 36. At Portmore Park, on the shore of Lough Neagh, in the county of Antrim, there was an oak growing within the memory of some persons yet alive, that may stand in comparison with the before-mentioned celebrated trees of England. The trunk of this tree was 42 feet girth, and 25 feet long to the first branch, one of the branches made into an Axletree for a bleach-mill, sold at £9. the remainder of the top tearly built a lighter, called the Royal Oak, which carried 40 tons; this was sold for £30. oak timber at that time sold for 1s. 6d. per foot. Our correspondent informs us the timber brought £97. but the bark being sold with other bark of the park, what it brought is not exactly known. Were more instances necessary to prove that the climate of Ireland seems peculiarly favourable to the growth of large timber, it would be easy to produce them. Our country has been long famous for the solidity and strength of its oak; we need not therefore travel abroad for this useful tree, our own woods produce in the greatest abundance the best kind of seed; but

few people are aware that there are three kinds of oak, indigenous to the soil, and that the fame of Irish oak timber depends altogether on that of the best quality being the most common, the first and best, *Quercus Robur*, Mart. Flo. Rust. t. 10. is characterized by the acorns, sitting on long stalks, and the leaves close to the branches; this is well known in the British dock-yards, and bears the highest price. The second, *Quercus sessiliflora* Mart. Flo. Rust. t. 11. is the quickest growing tree, has coarse grained timber of little value, and is characterized by the acorns sitting close to the branches, and large leaves or stalks. The third *Durmast Oak*, Mart. Flo. Rustica t. 12. is a small crooked growing tree, a variety of the last; and reckoned on account of its small size and crooked timber of little value.

Let any one look at plantations made some years, and wherever the trees have met a soil suitable to their roots, he will find they have exceeded the expectations of the planter, and promise to give a good profit for the land and expenses; indeed it appears that the most powerful cause against the growth of large timber, is the desire for converting every tree into money, and if gentlemen would forego the present advantage, and not be so often persuaded to cut trees before they had attained their full size, a succeeding generation might have the pleasure of seeing our country adorned with as large trees as most others. Before a tree is doomed to fall, the owner should calculate whether it is improving, has attained its highest perfection, or is going to decay. The first is as plainly shown by abundance of large leaves, as good health by a vigorous pulse in the human subject, while small leaves with rotting extremities to the branches, as clearly indicate its decline, and

that it is only encumbering that ground on which a thriving progeny might arise. It has been determined that "great trees grow more timber in a year than small ones; for if a coat of one sixth of an inch is laid on all round, then the timber added to the body every year is its length multiplied by the thickness of the coat, and by the girth, and therefore the thicker the tree is, the more timber is added." "If profit be considered, a tree ought to be cut down and sold, when the annual increase in value by its growth, is less than the annual interest of the money it would sell for. This being admitted we have only to inquire into the annual increase in the value."

"Before I quit this subject, I must beg leave to take notice of another great evil which is of so much consequence to the public, as to deserve their utmost attention; which is that of cutting down the oaks in the spring of the year, at the time when the sap is flowing. This is done for the sake of the bark, which will then peel easily off, and for the sake of this, I think there is a law, whereby people are obliged to cut down their timber at this season. But by so doing, the timber is not half so durable as that which is felled in the winter, so that those ships, which have been built of this spring cut timber, have decayed more in seven or eight years, than others which were built with timber cut in winter, have done in twenty or thirty. And this our neighbours the French have experienced, and therefore have wisely ordered that the bark should be taken off the trees standing, at the proper time, but the trees are left to the next, and sometimes until the second winter before they are cut down; and the timber of these are found to be more durable and better for use, than that

of any trees which have not been peeled."

The Count de Buffon has determined by a series of experiments conducted with the greatest accuracy, that barking of trees standing, is attended with the most beneficial effects in augmenting the strength of timber.

A piece of a tree which had been barked standing, 14 feet 6 inches square, weighing 242lb. broke under 7940lb. A piece from a similar tree, but unbarked, and of the same dimensions, weighing 234lb. broke under 7320lb.

A similar piece of barked, weight 249lb. broke under 8362lb.

Its companion unbarked, weight 236lb. broke under 7385lb.

Two others of the same dimensions supposed the best timber, the barked, weighing 263lb. bore, before it broke, 9046lb. The unbarked piece, weighing 238lb. broke under 7500lb.

The above trials are sufficient to show that wood stripped of its bark, and dried standing, is always heavier, and considerably stronger, than wood kept in its bark.

That the sacrifice of the timber for the sake of the bark is totally unnecessary is also proved by the experiments of both Mr. Biggin and Mr. Davy.

Comparative scale of barks, by G. Biggin, esq.

Tanning principle (in grains) from half a pint of infusion.

Sumack	158
Huntingdon or Leicester willow ..	109
Oak cut in Spring	108
Smooth Oak	104
Spanish Chestnut	98
Ash	82
Hazel	79
Poplar	76
Mountain Ash	60.
Horse Chestnut	30.
Oak cut in Winter	30

See Phil. Tran. for 1799, p. 363.

By Mr. Davy's Experiments.

Grains of
Tannin.

An ounce of the white cortical layer of old Oak Bark ...	72
... .. Young Oak	77
... .. Spanish Chestnut	63
... .. Leicester Willow	79
An ounce of the whole bark of Oak	29
... .. Spanish Chestnut	21
... .. Leicester Willow	33
... .. Elm	13
... .. Sicilian Sumack	78
... .. Malaga Sumack	79
An ounce of Souchong Tea ...	48
... .. Green Tea ...	41

Phil. Tran. for 1803, p. 239.

T.

For the *Belfast Monthly Magazine*.

Επί χύστου μη καθίζε.

Sit not upon a Bushel.

THIS symbol, though rather more retired than its predecessor, yet promises no great difficulty in the investigation. In order to attain to this *moral x, y*—this thing yet unknown—let us proceed to consider that which is known. A bushel, then, is a vessel appointed for the measurement of certain goods, a purpose, from which in the establishment of the just economist it will not be diverted. In fact, the leading principle of a well-regulated household is, that every thing be applied to its appropriate use, and to none other; where this useful principle is violated, we may naturally expect to find poverty the reigning mistress.

By extending the application of this principle, we have a precept, which we may profitably employ in the brief form of its symbol, "Apply every thing to its proper use." But, though this precept may have been conceived to originate in observations made within the limited sphere of a household, its application needs not to be limited there.

to: it might be applied to the great family of a kingdom, and, if enforced, might, nay, must, be found profitable. To pursue this very interesting, this solemnly important part of the subject, might lead to the displeasure of those, who would certainly be offended, and as certainly not *mended*: let us therefore confine our attention to the probable and possible, and endeavour to produce some beneficial effects on the minds of those, whom we can influence, through the mean of common sense.

Within the circle of our own little world, we may see many gross violations of this precept. What can be more glaring, more productive of ridicule, than a case, which any one may imagine for himself, and which will not seem beyond probability;—that of a man, who, having become almost an amphibious animal by long service at sea, at length forsakes that service, and, having secured reputation for riding the waves, would fain extend it, and grasps at the fame of a rider of horses. Under this generous impulse, he mounts, and most courageously surveys the roads. Emboldened by success, he trots, and aiming still higher,—“he will be a soldier,”—a soldier on horseback, though not able to see beyond his horse’s ears—a *light horseman*, though rather too fat to be a running footman!!

A character, like this, presented with all its absurdities collected into one view, may seem beyond reality: but the accurate observer of mankind will allow it to be probable, a faithful sketch of what may be; and, if such characters are not more frequently noticed, the cause is, that the ridiculous is in general softened by a mixture of some valuable qualifications.

Of such a character, whether the

misapplication of talent has arisen from bad advice of others, or ignorance in himself, it may be fairly said, “The bushel has been sat upon.” Such a misapplication however leads but to absurdity and consequently exposes a man merely to ridicule.

More serious consequences must result, when this misapplication of talent, and misdirection of the mind takes place in the important pursuits in life. The process is obvious, and unhappily, of too frequent occurrence. A child exhibits some marks of sprightliness and docility: it is extolled by its parents and friends and is marked out for the lawn-sleeves, or the wool pack. When sent to school, he shows some quickness and application.* This, to experienced persons, a slender ground, strengthens expectation. By this time he has become possessed of a high opinion of his own qualifications: and can he entertain any doubt of them, when he has been so often informed of them by those most consummate judges, his aunts, perhaps, or his grand-mama?

In his course through the university, circumstances may place a moderate degree of fame within his reach, and contribute to build him up in the opinion of his own excellencies. One thing only is wanting to rivet the delusion for life, his commencing his career in the world among persons, whose studies have not lain in the same course with his, and whose judgments he conse-

* It is not meant here, that quickness and application are not promising symptoms in a boy: but that the *degree* of them which gives such hopes to fond parents and partial friends, and is so common among boys, does not warrant the very extravagant hopes it excites.

quently contemns. Obtaining here a temporary popularity, he becomes blown up with vanity. The partiality, natural to parents and friends, had secured to him constant forbearance in his boyish days: but these causes now no longer exist; he has pushed forward to secure admirers in the world; a degree of talent, that adorned by modesty would have commanded respect, obtains him respect for a while; but the gloss of novelty wears away; his applauders gradually lessen, and he wears away into insignificance. The evil however is done, the deep impression of his importance is not to be erased from his own mind, and the loss of popularity, which should be considered by him as a proof of error or deficiency in himself, is ascribed to want of discernment, or to envy in others.

From similar causes, many, who might have been useful in various departments of life, have been sent adrift on the world as starved poets, or hireling pamphleteers, exposed to the inevitable alternative of struggling on in penury, or of rubbing off all moral principle in the struggle. How justly worthy of pity we may conceive some of these victims to parental partiality to have been!! Had they been taught to appreciate their capacity justly, or had they been left to time and exertion to find their proper place in the scale of merit, they might have attained to respectability, or at least have escaped disappointment and contempt.

The consideration of—

*Quid ferre recusant,
Quid valeant humeri—*

a precept of nearly similar import with that contained in the Symbol, should be ever present to our minds, if we would avoid just ridicule and disgraceful miscarriage; we should

each for ourselves, strive to apply the vessel to its proper use; and parents should be led by a sense of duty, as well as the interest of the child to keep in view this precept in its training and destination.

This explanation of the Symbol appears to me obvious and natural: it may not seem so to others. That the various tastes of our readers may have some chance of being suited, the following opinions of different expositors are laid before them.—Lilius Gyraldus assumes the word Choenix, or bushel, to signify the quantity necessary for the consumption of one day, and infers the instruction of the precept to be, that a man is not to rest contented with having acquired what is needful for the present, but to extend his view to the future also. This he conceives to be well expressed in the figurative precept, which forbids sitting on the measure, as though it were to be applied no more to its proper use. Picus of Mirandula expounds it thus, that, measuring all things by our reason, we should order all our actions by rule and measure. In this he evidently supposes the measuring vessel to be an emblem of the reasoning part in man; and the perversion of it to improper uses will then aptly signify the abuse of the understanding.

Ὁμωροφίως χελιδόντας μὴ ἔχει.

Keep not Swallows under thy Roof.

The coincidence of this precept with the popular superstition concerning swallows, would seem to warrant the idea, that the vulgar notion is but a misunderstood acceptance of the Pythagorean Symbol. The existence of the superstition at so great a distance of time from the delivery of the precept supposed to be its basis, will appear but a slight objection to those, who

consider, how strongly the minds of different and distant ages resemble each other in their weaknesses and vices. It is, in fact, the same mind operated on at different intervals by nearly similar causes; and the offspring of ignorance have been ever remarkable for a family-resemblance.

Hence, the same error has been noticed to lead men captive in places and ages the most remote, where no suspicion of tradition or direct instruction can be conceived: for instance, the sacrifices to Moloch noticed by the sacred historian in the early ages of the world, and the human sacrifices among the Mexicans, whose empire, according to a very reasonable supposition, could not have had existence many ages, before the period of its discovery. Besides, many errors are evidently traditionary, and the investigation of the many points of resemblance between the superstitious practices and opinions of elder times, and those which now prevail, would furnish no uninteresting object for pursuit.

In Hamlet, Horatio says of the Ghost—

.....“ Yet once, methought,
It lifted up its head, and did address
Itself to motion, like as it would speak:
But even then, the morning cock crew
loud,

And at the sound, it shrunk in haste away,
And vanished from our sight—”

This morning-time is defined elsewhere to be—

“ In the dead waist and middle of the
night—”

The Ghost also in his converse with Hamlet, exclaims.

“ But, soft! methinks I smell the morn-
ing air.”

Let us now hear Anchises, who addresses his son in words, of which the preceding might almost seem a translation.

•“ Jamque vale; torquet medios nox hu-
mida cursus;
Et me sævus equis Oriens adflavit anhelis:
Dixerat, et tenuis fugit, ceu fumus, in
auras.”

Some of those inventions of man, which have been engrafted on the religion of the Bible to its great deterioration, may perhaps find their origin also among the rites of paganism. The lustral water of the heathens may suggest one practise of the present day, and in *Eneid*, lib. 6. v. 736, &c. the prototype of another will probably be discovered.‡

In the Symbol now under consideration, the design is not so obvious as in the preceding ones. What are the most striking circumstances in the nature and habits of swallows? Their emigrations, and incessant change of place? Here then seems to be an allusion to men of unsteady minds, and fickle dispositions;—men, who flutter from place to place, having no attachment for their natal soil, feeling no preference, but as convenience or selfish interest decides: whose maxim is,—“ Ubi bene, ibi patria.” Admit not such men beneath thy roof; that is, form not close intimacies with them: for we

•—“ And now farewell: moist night
whirls her middle course, and the
cruel east hath breathed upon me with his
panting horses.” He said, and, like vapour,
fled into thin air.

‡ Shakespeare almost a translator again
in *Measure for Measure*. Act 3. Sc. 1.

Ay but to die, and go we know not
where—

—This sensible warm motion to be-
come

A kneaded clod; “and the delighted
spirit

To bathe in fiery floods, or to reside
In thrilling regions of thick ribbed ice:”
To be imprisoned in the viewless winds,
And blown with restless violence round
about

The pendant world—

must not suppose, that Pythagoras, who was a philanthropist, would enjoin a precept so inhospitable, as to shut the door on distress and want.

One characteristic of the persons, against whom this Symbol is conceived to warn, is that they wait not to be sought for; they present themselves unsolicited, and cross us in all our paths: they require not the wooing; they are forward and obtrusive, being totally unacquainted with the inseparable companion of merit, modesty.

The Symbol, thus understood, would be a useful impress on the mind of a young man, just about to take up his part on the stage of life. The characters, against which it warns, with their superficial qualities, catch his inexperienced eye; they advance close to him, and fill his whole field of vision, and consequently those, who will not come forward, because conscious that their worth demands a search, remain unperceived by him. What commonly results?—Disappointment necessarily. A little time suffices to wear off the superficial gilding, and the selfish worthless character appears beneath: hence, in the minds of the ardent and high-spirited a dangerous revulsion too frequently takes place: the heart, that expands with benevolent warmth to every being, now chilled in all its hopes, impetuously contracts, and will scarcely admit an individual to its embrace.

May not the caution, thus extracted from the Symbol, be profitably impressed on females—and on them more peculiarly?

The boy is generally familiarized from an early age, to intercourse and collision with his equals: his powers of discrimination are soon called into exercise, and consequently arrive at maturity at a compara-

tively early period. His pursuits after leaving school, are of the kind, which require a vigorous exercise of the mental powers. Hence it will necessarily result, that he will be found to possess above the female of equal natural talent, all that decided superiority, which experience and exercise confer.

The opposite to this will sketch the female's case. She dwells longer in the vale of retirement: when brought into public, she appears not without her matron-guide, from whom she departs only to be consigned to the more pleasing guidance of a husband. These circumstances are, of themselves, sufficient to enfeeble, or at least to retard the growth of intellect. Add to these the debasing effect of what is, by a misnomer, termed education—a course, which not merely enfeebles the understanding, but prevents its remains past hope, by fettering it with vanity, and the love of what is useless. No duties can be well performed but by the aid of reason, and what duties are there so important, so interesting, so productive of public advantage, and private happiness, as those of the mother who prizes and watches over her jewels*, as she ought? And can a man of common sense expect those important, those sacred duties, to be well discharged by the fluttering empty thing forced into womanhood in the hot-house of a boarding-school? and is it consistent with good sense, or with the interest of man himself, to impress the ungenerous, absurd idea, that it is needless and improper for females to cultivate their understandings?

While the rational part of a female is thus left unimproved, *on principle*, there must be an incapacity of judg-

* In allusion to Cornelia, the mother of the Gracchi.

ing accurately, and consequently a liability to be hurried away by plausible appearances. Under such circumstances then, when the mother, wife, or daughter, forsakes her legitimate protector, and confines herself to infamy and a seducer, while we condemn them, we must not do so exclusively; those who have exposed them to the temptation unarmed, deserve their share of censure. The natural guardian and instructor should have taught the female mind to reason, and so have furnished a test, by which to discriminate between the fluttering inconstant tribe, supposed to be described in the Symbol, and those, who would prove safe guides and beloved companions through the journey of life.

Gyraldus, in his commentary, supposes the swallows to be false friends, who abound in the sun-shine and summer of prosperity; and disappear at the approach of the winter of adversity. To this interpretation, it may however be objected, that the design of Pythagoras, in giving these Symbols, was to furnish his disciples with brief advices, by which they might be forearmed for any emergency; the Symbol, according to the interpretation of Gyraldus, is not a preceptive forewarning guide, it is a mere allegory, by which an idea is given, of what false friends are, but no rule laid down, by which they are to be discovered.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

The following letter was written for a young friend, on his going abroad. As the admonitions it contains may be useful to other young men in similar situations, and even to young men in general, I send you a copy, conceiving that it might

with propriety, find a place in the pages of your useful and interesting magazine,

I am &c. A. Z.

LETTER TO A YOUNG MAN GOING
ABROAD.

MY DEAR WILLIAM,

YOUR mother, prompted by the tenderest affection and solicitude for your welfare and happiness, has requested me to write you a letter of friendly admonition, on the occasion of your going abroad. She conceives that a few hints respecting your future conduct, dictated, as you will believe them to be, by the purest motives, and the warmest desires for your future happiness, may make a lasting impression on your mind, and may assist to strengthen your virtuous resolutions, when you shall no longer enjoy the advice and instructions of your relatives and friends. I shall comply with her request, with the greatest pleasure: and trust that you will receive the following brief admonitions, with the same interest with which they are written, often meditate upon them, and lay them seriously to heart.

The mode of life on which you are about to enter, will probably, in a great measure, preclude you from enjoying the public services of religion. But independently of these, there are principles of piety, and duties of devotion, which no circumstances or situations should prevail with you to neglect.

Consider that from God you derive your being, and that on him you are continually dependant for all that you enjoy: that it is his pleasure, that you should be happy; and that of course, it is his will, that you should constantly love and obey him. Let, therefore, that Supreme Being, whose approbation is that alone which can confer true and

lasting happiness to the mind, be the object of your most fervent love, and constant adoration. Consider yourself as continually in his presence: and let the reflexion, that he knows, not only your most secret actions, but even the very thoughts of your heart, check every evil inclination, that may at any time arise in your mind. Be mindful to pray to him daily; not offering up merely the tribute of the lips, but the hallowed incense of a grateful and devoted heart. Confess your faults to him; implore his mercy and forgiveness, and pray, that he may enable you to avoid his displeasure, for all time to come. Pray that he may keep you from all evil; and may enable you, amid the trials and difficulties of life, to hold fast your integrity to the end; that so, you may at length obtain those divine rewards which none but those who serve him faithfully, can ever expect to enjoy.

Neglect not to read the Holy Scriptures, that great treasury of divine knowledge, from whose glorious discoveries, we derive all our hopes of future life and happiness. Let not the heavenly warnings, the gracious promises, and transporting prospects, which they disclose to the view of all good christians, ever be effaced from your mind. Meditation, on that high destination, to which, by the light of the christain revelation, you have been called, will animate every good resolution, and will teach you to look, with a generous and holy scorn, on all the seducing vanities and debasing honours and enjoyments of a wicked world. A mind informed and influenced by the great truths of religion, will be a sure protection for you, amid the snares of life, and the source of inexpressible

comfort to you, when you come to die.

A due reverence for that omnipresent and omniscient God, on whom you continually depend, will protect you from the odious and abominable crime of *profane swearing*.— You will probably meet with many examples to encourage you to indulge in this vice. But let a sense of religion ever influence your conduct. Consider too the total unprofitableness of the practice of profane swearing. Men gain by it neither reputation nor credit. On the contrary, it always sinks the character of those who are addicted to it, in the estimation of all the friends of true religion. Swearers are always less respected, and less depended on than those who speak the words of plain and simple truth. Add to this, the high impiety which there is in invoking on the most trivial occasions, and in the most irreverent manner, the awful majesty of heaven!

In your intercourse with the world, let truth, sincerity, and candour, the strictest justice, and the purest benevolence, influence your conduct. Integrity of heart and life will gain for you the confidence and esteem of all the wise and good, and will guide you in safety through numberless difficulties and dangers. The designing, the perfidious, and those who respect not truth nor virtue, except when they think it will serve their present interests, may prosper for a while: but sooner or later, they are ensnared in their own wicked devices, are covered with infamy, and sink into deserved abhorrence. To your *superiors*, you must conduct yourself with unfeigned humility and respect; giving honour to whom honour is due; impressed with a proper sense of that deference and obedience, to which those above you are entitled. To your *inferiors*

you are to testify a generous and benevolent condescension; avoiding all harsh and overbearing language and conduct, and desiring, that they should treat you with a becoming respect, rather from a sense of your merit, than from a conviction of your superiority. To your *equals* you are to express the greatest openness, and frankness of demeanour, cultivating a courteous, obliging, and generous disposition, and avoiding all unsocial and unfriendly passions. Endeavour to secure the good opinion of all around you, by all the kind offices in your power:—yet be cautious whom you choose for your intimate companions, and confidential friends. Young minds are generous, open, and unsuspecting; and there is, therefore, the greater danger, that they will be ensnared by the craft of the designing and the profligate. Open your bosom only to friends, of well-known integrity, and tried fidelity. Avoid the society of all those who laugh at religion, and who presume to think lightly of crimes, which virtue teaches us to abhor: and on the contrary, cultivate the friendship of those whom by experience, you find to be friends of piety and true goodness. Should any attempt to seduce you from virtue, shun them as you would do a pestilence. If you lend an ear to their alluring words, you may imbibed that contagious poison, which will infect your whole moral frame, and blast your character and happiness for ever!

Nothing contributes so much to soften the manners, and sweeten the dispositions of young men, as the society and conversation of the virtuous and amiable of the female sex. I may even add, with truth, that these tend, in no inconsiderable degree, to inspire the youthful mind with a love of virtue: for we cannot

admire virtue and benevolence in their loveliest form, and be enamoured of their charms, without abhorring vice, in one of the most odious forms in which it can present itself to our view. Neglect not, therefore, as you may enjoy opportunity, to cultivate the acquaintance of virtuous and amiable females. You will find among such, a delicacy of sentiment, a refinement of manners, a degree of purity of mind, and of real goodness, which can rarely be found in the other sex. But while this improvement of manners and disposition may be naturally expected from the society of virtuous and amiable females, what depravation of character, what debasement of mind may not be expected from the society of the profligate of the female sex! As you value purity of heart, the dignity of your immortal nature, which should aspire after immensely higher and nobler objects than what the sensualist can boast of, and especially your peace with heaven, resist the allurements of criminal pleasure. Suffer not the enticing words, or ensnaring example of any with whom you may at any time be unfortunately connected, to put you off your guard, even for a moment, so as to seduce you from virtue, even in the smallest degree. For should you yield, in one instance, what protection shall you be able to find, either from your own mind, or from heaven, against the seducing influence of any subsequent impulse: and how can you say, that the demon of criminal pleasure may not afterwards so completely prevail over you, as to hurry you forward to the utmost excess; so as, at length, to involve you in the lowest depths of moral degradation.

I express myself, my dear William, thus particularly, not because I entertain the most distant suspicion

of the purity of your mind, or the strength of your good resolutions, but because you will find, on your becoming further acquainted with the world, that many young men, otherwise well disposed, entertain most erroneous and destructive opinions on this subject. As an humble minister of the pure and holy religion of the Blessed Jesus, and anxious to guard you against all false impressions, I therefore declare that christianity will not permit, but on the contrary, condemns, in the strongest terms, many of those indulgencies which are sanctioned by the corrupt maxims of a licentious age. Beware, therefore, of yielding to the influence of those maxims, as you value purity of heart, the dignity of your nature, and your final salvation.

Another vice against which it behooves you scrupulously to guard, is *excess in drink*. Looking around you, you will perceive that many young men, with every prospect of doing well in this world, have been entirely ruined by this vice. It is the source of almost every evil, that can attach to human nature. It undermines the frame of the bodily constitution, and clothes the vigour of youth, with the decrepitude of old age. It disorders the whole system; destroys the tone of every organ; palsies every nerve. Hence the attack of resistless disease—the convulsed frame—premature death!—But the intoxicating draught invades also our more precious, our spiritual and immortal part. Nor does it destroy only that divine principle of intellect, which is implanted in the human soul: it blunts also the moral feelings; and prepares the way for every vice.—Would you then preserve a sound constitution, a clear judgment, and a heart alive to every good moral emotion?—would you discharge the duties of your pro-

fession, with that skill, activity and vigour, which they require?—dash from your hand the cup of intemperance. Let those riot, who think not of that Divine Being, to whom they must give an account of the talents entrusted to them: you have a better sense of religion and duty. Your mind is so impressed with a sense of the necessity of acting well the part allotted to you in life, that you will beware of suffering the poisoned chalice of intemperance to approach your lips.

Another thing, to which young men are particularly exposed, and against which I most anxiously wish to guard you, is *duelling*. Men regardless of religion, and the smile of an approving heaven, have impiously exalted what they falsely term the laws of *honour*, above the laws of *God*: and have taught, that men may innocently attempt to destroy one another, in single combat. We daily hear specious apologies made to justify, or excuse this practice: and it is alledged, that men are under a sort of necessity of fighting duels, as they would avoid disgrace and shame. It may be worth remarking to you, that duelling is positively discountenanced by the XIX article of war. But it is prohibited also by an infinitely higher and more venerable authority than that of human legislators: God has said, “thou shalt not kill,” and “thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself,” and does not the duellist break both these commandments? And how awful the thought! to be the means of sending a fellow creature, guilty of no crime that merited death, suddenly to appear at the bar of an offended judge! How terrible also the idea, to end thus that period of trial, and that day of grace which heaven has granted us to make preparation for eternity! Is it after parting with

life, in a manner contrary to the law of God, that we shall hope to see his face in mercy? Should any urge the custom of the age, and the established forms of a fashionable life, as warranting the practice; I ask whether we are to fear and obey *man* rather than God? and, I trust, my dear Sir, that a sense of religion, and a regard to your prospects for eternity, will with you prevail over the corrupt maxims and wicked practices of a degenerate world.

Young men are frequently too passionate, too warm in argument, and rash in their expressions. By intemperate warmth and unguarded language, they frequently involve themselves in very unpleasant disputes with one another. Your good sense and discretion will teach you to express your sentiments with modesty, coolness and consideration; and to be very cautious in speaking of the character and conduct of those around you. Avoid giving offence, as much as possible; and you will seldom be exposed to receive offence from others. A peaceable disposition, united to a spirit of moderation, will alike protect you from the charge of having done injury to those around you, and from the unpleasant thought of having received injury from them.

I shall conclude this letter by recommending in general terms, habits of industry, diligence, and application. Endeavour to excel in the discharge of every duty required of you. Great men have obtained the laurels of renown, only by indefatigable exertions. Let them be your example, and you may in time hope to reap a similar reward. Yet while you look to the rewards of merit in this world, suffer not your views to be bounded

by the present scene of things. Ever consider yourself as intended for glory, honor, and immortality: and therefore, while you ardently pant after the prize of earthly renown, above all things study to secure that eternal prize, and that crown of glory, which shall never fade away.

May God Almighty ever bless you, preserve you from all the real ills of this life, and make you, at length, partaker of the happiness of that better life, which is yet to come, is the earnest prayer of Your affectionate, and faithful, &c.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

NINTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND.

Continued from vol. 5, p. 409.

PRESENT STATE OF THE SCHOOLS.

Drogheda.

IT appeared from the examination of the Rev. Charles Crawford, taken on the 12th of July 1807, that he had been appointed master of that school in 1789, previous to which time he stated the number of scholars to have been about eighty, of whom about forty were boarders with the master, twenty with the usher, and the rest were day scholars, six or eight of whom were free. At the time of his examination, there were but thirty-two boys in the school, of whom eight were boarders and the rest day scholars, five of them free. His salary as master was one hundred pounds per annum, in addition to which he had for some years after his appointment (as had also his predecessor) received one hundred and fifty pounds per annum for the payment of two assistants at his discretion. There had been also an usher appointed by the governors with a salary of

sixty pounds per annum, and an house fit for the reception of boarders. It appeared however, that in consequence of the great diminution of the number of his scholars, the governors had for the two last years discontinued the appointment of the usher, and had allowed the master only fifty pounds for an assistant; and since that time the school having continued to fall off, they have dismissed Mr. Crawford from his employment (with an annuity however of sixty pounds per annum) and appointed the Rev. Lancelot Dowdall in his place. On the 9th of May 1809, Mr. (now Doctor) Dowdall appeared at our board, and stated to us, that since his appointment in 1807, the number of scholars had increased from little more than twenty (one of whom only was a boarder) to ninety-eight, of whom sixty-six were boarders and the rest day scholars. His salary as master continues one hundred pounds per annum, which (as he stated and we are of opinion) is scarcely adequate to the situation, considering that he is to keep the school-house in repair, and that there is no land annexed to the endowment; he pays ten guineas per acre for ground near the town, which he must take for keeping milch cows. The governors however have made him a liberal allowance for putting the whole of the buildings into complete repair; they have also re-established a head usher with a salary of one hundred pounds per annum, and repaired his house; and appointed a second assistant at eighty pounds per annum, who resides in the master's house. Mr. Dowdall pays a third classical assistant thirty guineas per annum, who also resides in his house. Sixty pounds per annum to a French teacher, and eighty pounds per annum to a writing master and English assistant.

The situation of this school is extremely favourable to its becoming a flourishing seminary, as it formerly has been, and is likely to be again under the conduct of the present master, who appears deserving of every encouragement. The School-house is spacious, and will accommodate one hundred boarders. The usher's house is also a very good one, and fit for the reception of thirty boys. The school and play-ground are well adapted for those numbers, the former being sixty feet in length and thirty in breadth, with a room over it for the head master's scholars, and the latter consisting of near three roods. On the whole we have much satisfaction in reporting the improved condition of this school, and in expressing our hopes that it will soon recover and long maintain its former character and celebrity.

Galway School.

The Rev. Thomas Canham Wade, at his examination before the board on the 16th of January 1807, stated that he was appointed master of this school in December 1801, at the salary of one hundred pounds per annum, with the addition of a farm of thirty-three acres about a mile from the town, which he lets at four pounds per acre, (besides a field of three acres nearer the town allowed him by the governors for grazing) the whole subject to a head rent to the governors of seventeen pounds seven shillings per annum. He is also allowed to let the lower part of the school-house, which is situated in the high-street of Galway, for shops, the rent of which amounted at that time to ninety-six pounds fourteen shillings and sixpence; his appointments therefore may be estimated at more than three hundred and twenty pounds per annum. There is an usher appointed by the gover-

nors at twenty pounds per annum. The master is obliged to keep the house in repair, but it was put into complete order on his appointment at the expense of the governors.—It was stated by him to be capable of accommodating sixteen boarders, but he never had more than one. The number of scholars then in his school was thirty-one, of whom fourteen were instructed in classics by the usher, to whom he allowed the profits of their tuition, viz. four guineas per annum; the rest were English scholars, and taught also by the usher on the same terms, except in writing and accounts, in which the master instructed all the boys himself without any extra charge. Since his examination it appears, that the usher has resigned, and another been appointed by the governors. Whether from that circumstance, or from the master having paid more attention to classical instruction, the number of classical scholars appears by the last return to the governors (which is or ought to be made annually by all the masters) to have increased considerably. But the situation of the school, in one of the closest and most thronged streets, surrounded by shops, and without any playground, is most unfavourable for boarders, even if the house could properly accommodate them. And having been so represented to the governors by one of their body, who had visited it the year 1806, it has been resolved to erect a new school and school-house at a small distance from the town, on ground belonging to the governors, which was ordered to be inclosed for the purpose this summer. The present high price of timber has probably been the reason that no further steps have been taken for carrying this very desirable scheme into execution.

Tipperary School.

The Rev. Marshal Clarke, examined by the board on the 12th of January 1807, was appointed master of this school about the year 1796, at a salary of one hundred pounds per annum, with about ten acres of ground, rent free. The house is well situated near the town and was stated to be capable of accommodating one hundred boarders, and to be kept in good repair by the master at his own expense.—He has one assistant appointed by the governors, with a salary of twenty pounds per annum, and an house and ten acres of land. He pays another himself fifteen guineas per annum, who resides in the school-house; he stated the number of his scholars to be thirty-six, of whom twelve were boarders, and the rest day scholars, and fifteen of them free.

The present state of this and of Galway school is less flourishing than might be expected from their situation and other circumstances of their endowment. We cannot doubt that this is to be attributed in some degree either to the want of exertion in the masters, or to their not being as highly qualified in other respects as it were to be wished. As far as the former cause may have operated, the power of visitation possessed by the governors, if regularly or even occasionally exercised, would apply the most effectual remedy; and with respect to the latter, it is much to be desired that some regulation were adopted by the governors in the appointment of their masters, by which the qualifications of the several candidates might be distinctly ascertained.—It is stated indeed to be their practice to advertise the vacancies of their schools, with a view to invite persons properly qualified to offer for them; and if this were to be followed either by an actual exa-

mination of the candidates, or by such a reference to the places of their education and former professional exertions as might produce authentic and conclusive testimonials of their merit, there could be little doubt of a decision advantageous to the public and honourable to the governors themselves.—Something of this sort, we are informed, took place in the late appointment of the master and ushers of Drogheda school, and the result has sufficiently evinced its utility.

Ennis School.

The Rev. Michael Fitzgerald was appointed master of this school in 1782, with the same salary of one hundred pounds per annum, and under the same condition of keeping the school-house in repair.—There is no land annexed to the endowment, except the ground on which the school and house and offices are erected, and a garden and play-ground, making in the whole about two acres. Mr. Fitzgerald stated, however, on his examination, that when extraordinary repairs were represented by him to be necessary, the expense of them had been usually defrayed by the governors.—The house is capable of accommodating forty-two boarders. Mr. Fitzgerald had once so many as sixty; but at that time the beds were occupied each by two boys, a practice which he has for some years discontinued. His number at present is thirty-one, and sixteen day Scholars, of whom eight are free. At the time of his appointment, the school had fallen away so, that he found no boarders and only a few day scholars. The governors allow him fifty pounds per annum for an assistant to whom he pays fifty pounds more, besides his board and lodging; he pays another forty pounds per annum and his board. The school-room is divided into two apartments, one

of forty feet by twenty for classical instruction, and the other twenty feet square for writing, &c. He pays two writing masters, one thirty the other twenty guineas per annum, and a French master thirty guineas per annum, and they all boarded in his house. The situation he states to be favourable for a school, and he appears to have paid a faithful and laborious attention to his duty for a period of twenty-six years. The number of scholars he thinks would increase if the accommodations were enlarged; and he stated that a detached building for an infirmary was much wanted. This appears to be the case in most of the schools on this foundation. He represented also (and we think his representation well founded) that considering the smallness of his salary, a greater allowance should be made for assistants; and that the land annexed to the school is much too small. Some of the neighbouring gentry have laudably attended to the encouragement of this school, by annual grants of from five to ten guineas, for premiums to the boys at the half yearly examinations, which are accordingly distributed in books and medals. On the whole, we are well satisfied with the state of this school, of which we consider Mr. Fitzgerald to be an active and meritorious superior.

ENGLISH SCHOOL ON THE COOMBE,

In the City of Dublin.

This School was established in the year 1804, at a very considerable expense; the ground is rented at £30. per annum, and on it a spacious building is erected, consisting of a convenient house for the master, and two large school-rooms, one for boys, and the other for girls, who are instructed in reading and plain-work by the master's wife. Mr. Fox the master is stated to have acquitted himself since his appoint-

ment to the entire satisfaction of the governors; at the last return of the numbers in the school, there were one hundred and sixty boys, and one hundred and thirty-two girls. The former he teaches reading, writing, and arithmetic, with the assistance of monitors only (as practised in Doctor Bell's system.) An usher, at thirty pounds per annum salary, instructs the girls in writing and accounts. A catechist is employed to inspect the school, and to catechise the children, with a salary of sixty pounds per annum. The master and mistress have one hundred pounds per annum, besides an allowance of coals, and the payment of their house-tax and other taxes.

The other English schools at Nenagh, Tarbert, and Templederry, are on a more confined scale. The masters have each a house, and a salary of twenty pounds per annum. It cannot be expected that, with so scanty an endowment, these schools can be productive of much advantage. We feel it our duty indeed to state our opinion, that the allow-

ance to the masters of almost all the schools of this establishment, is inferior to what the state of the funds could well afford, and to the reasonable claims and expectations of persons duly qualified for such appointments. We subjoin an abstract of the last returns made by the several masters, of the number of scholars in their respective schools; and conclude our report with expressing an hope and persuasion, that the attention of the present governors to the management and application of their large and increasing income, will direct it to the production of proportional advantage to the community.

Council-Chamber, Dublin Castle, }
Sept. the 21st, 1809.

ISAAC COBRY.

GEO. HALL, provost.

JAMES VERSCHOYLE,
Dean of St. Patrick's.

JAMES WHITELAW,
vicar of St. Catherine's.

WILLM. DISNEY.

R. LOVEL EDGEWORTH.

Appendix, No. 4.

ANNUAL DISBURSEMENTS OF THE GOVERNORS OF THE SCHOOLS FOUNDED BY ERASMUS SMITH, ESQ.

	£.	s.	d.
To Christ's Hospital, London	108	6	8
To the masters and ushers of Drogheda grammar school	280	-	-
To the late master, an annuity	60	-	-
To the master and usher of Galway School	140	-	-
Ditto of Tipperary	120	-	-
Ditto of Ennis	150	-	-
To the master of the English school at Nenagh	20	-	-
Ditto at Templederry	20	-	-
Ditto at Tarbert	20	-	-
To the master and mistress of the Coombe school	100	-	-
To writing-master, catechist, ministers, coals, stationary, taxes, &c. about	200	-	-
To Trinity College	970	-	-

Carried over 2,188 0 0

	Brought over	£.	s.	d.
To the Blue-coat Hospital, for maintaining and educating 30 boys, about	2,188	0	0	
To the Charter School at Sligo	800	-	-	
To ground rents, quit rents, &c. about	250	-	-	
To the Register's salary	60	-	-	
To a board room for the governors	50	-	-	
		3,398	6	8
<i>Note.</i> —The expenses of repairs and buildings are very considerable.				
The balance on hands on the account made up to 1st May, 1807, is	3,638	17	0	½
And on 1st May, 1808, -	3,393	19	5	

SCHOOLS.

	L.	s.	d.
3 English Schools are supported at an annual expense of 1/20 to each Master	60	-	-
An English School at the Coombe, in the city of Dublin, for Boys and Girls, at an annual expense of about	300	-	-
Eleven English Schools have been agreed to be founded, the building of which at £300 each, will cost	3,300	-	-
And the salaries to the Masters will be at £30 a year each	330	-	-
A new School has been ordered to be built at Galway, which will cost above	5,000	-	-
No. Ground allotted. A. R. P.			
1. Eng. School at Ardee, co. Louth	1	0	7
2. Templemore, co. Tipperary	0	1	0
3. Littleton.....do.....	2	0	0
4. Ballingarry.....do.....	2	0	0
5. Kilrush.....Clare.....	1	0	0
6. Kiltigan.....Wicklow...	2	0	0
Ground allotted. A. R. P.			
7. English School at Stranorlar, co. Donegal.....	0	1	0
8. Loughall.....Armagh.....	2	0	0
9. Lurgan.....do.....	2	0	0
10. Newtown-Barry.....Wexford.	2	0	0
11. Slane.....Meath.....	0	1	2½

Appendix, No. 5.

NUMBER OF SCHOLARS IN THE DIFFERENT SCHOOLS OF ERASMUS SMITH, MAY, 1808.				Boys.	Girls.
Grammar Schools.	Boys.	Girls.			
Drogheda	99	—	Nenagh	19	—
Galway	44	—	Tarbert	11	28
Tipperary	64	—	Templeberry	18	—
Ennis	70	—	Total	485	160
English Schools.					
On the Coombe	160	192	Grand Total	645	—

To facilitate the erection of school-houses on grants out of the funds of Erasmus Smith's schools, an act was passed in last session of parliament, empowering land-owners under settlement, or tenants for life, to grant land not exceeding half an acre, within a corporate town, or two acres elsewhere; and archbishops, bishops, and other ecclesiastical persons, with consent of Diocesan, to grant one acre of their glebe, or otherwise, to any person, or persons, body, or bodies, aggregate or sole, who shall be approved of by the bishop of the diocese in which such lands lie, in trust, and for the use of a resident school-master, subject to such conditions, as shall be made between the grantor and those, whether individuals or public bodies, who shall advance or shall have advanced any of his or their money, or any part of the funds entrusted to their management, to the amount of not less than one hundred pounds, sterling, either for the building of a school-house on the land so granted, or for the endowment of the school-master.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

(RAMBLE CONTINUED.)

From vol. 5, page 271.

THIS island, or rather peninsula, was formerly called M'Gwyne's or Maguy's isle, from its inhabitants being mostly of that name, and belonged to the bishop of Down and Connor; about the year 1604, Robert Humpston, bishop of Down and Connor, made a fee-farm lease of the island to sir Henry Piers and Sir Francis Annesly, at the yearly rent of £6. 13s. 4d. It was afterwards granted by James 1st to Sir Arthur Chichester, with the rectorial tythes and advowsons of the churches, * but on the 22d September 1640, Edward, first Viscount Chichester surrendered the tythes, &c. and in lieu thereof received the tythes and advowsons of the vicarage of Shankhill. The island was immediately after united into one parish. It is now divided into 26 townlands, and contains 3100 acres of excellent land, at the average price of 18s. per acre; the tythe is now compounded for at 2s. 8d. per acre, and is paid to the Rev. Thomas Graves, dean of Connor, rector. The number of dwelling houses amounts to about 290. The cess here is usually higher than in any other parish of the county, this year it amounted to £559. 0s. 8½d. only about sixty pounds of which was expended on roads, &c.

* Before the general dissolution of Monastic houses, the rectory of Whitekirk, in this island, was attached to the abbey of Muckamore, near Antrim; Kilkeran paid tythe to the abbey of Disart, alias Kells, county Antrim, and the two townlands, now called Ballypriors, anciently Ballypormagna and Parra, to the abbey of Goodborn, alias Goodburn, near Carrickfergus.

within the island; this has caused much grumbling at present, and I think with some reason, as several roads here stand in need of repair. The church cess this year amounted to £24. 5s. 8d. But to return from this long digression, having walked pretty fast for about two miles I stopt on a rising ground, the better to enjoy the prospect which was really ample; before me was the ocean, with a long ridge of the black mountains of Galloway and Argyle-shires in the back ground; the mull of Cantyre was most conspicuous, jutting out boldly towards the Irish coast, where a promontory seemed to meet that of the opposite shore; their rugged sides were smoothed by distance, and here and there their summits were lost to the naked eye by the haze of the atmosphere. Nearer, the prospect, though deficient in romantic grandeur, was much more interesting, the gentle swelling hills of Braid-island and Magheramorn, being finely chequered with the fields of ripening grain, which sight gave a more pleasing sensation to my mind than any scene of sterility whatsoever: farther northward the country gradually assumed a wilder aspect, and the view was terminated by the rugged headland of the county of Antrim already mentioned. An hypothesis has been formed by several learned authors, that Britain and Ireland were formerly united near those capes, and that they were separated by some terrible convulsion of nature; this opinion receives some support from the proximity of the capes, which are only about twenty miles asunder; some even go so far as to suppose that the island of Rahery, and some of the Western isles are fragments of a country buried at a very remote period under the ocean. Laying aside those learned guesses, I renewed

my journey, pleased to behold such snug farm-houses, and fields with such luxuriant crops; the fields of beans were now rather unpleasing to the eye from their dark hue, however they are still considered by the farmer as a steady crop, and not liable to be much injured by an inclement season, their harvest can also be attended to, when all others are over; besides, this crop does not reduce the soil, but rather enriches it.

The country presenting no striking objects, I soon reached the house of my acquaintance near Port-muck; he received me kindly, treating me with all that hospitality for which the inhabitants of this peninsula are said to be so conspicuous; after which he showed me several curious fossils found in the neighbourhood; they consisted chiefly of stones impregnated with different kinds of ore, also some of calcareous sandstone found on the beach, to which various marine shells adhered, all in a petrified state. But what most attracted my notice, was a brass gouge, about three inches long, and near half as much round, found in a chink of a limestone rock, about thirty feet below the surface of the earth.—As this metal has not been used for such instruments since the introduction of iron, it must have remained there many centuries, but how it came there is not easy to determine, as upwards of nine feet deep of solid clay-earth was dug off the limestone where the gouge was discovered. After examining those rarities some time, we took a walk out along the adjacent coast, opposite the isle of Muck; this small isle is merely a large rock covered with a thin stratum of earth, it is separated from the main-land, but can be entered on the west at low water; it appears to have been anciently

a place of defence, as on the land side some vestiges of a stone wall are still visible: on the northern side is the small port to which it gives name. On the north side of this haven are the ruins of the castle of Port-muck, a small quadrangular building, which seems to have been built for a fortress; in the outside of the western wall is an aperture like a chimney, called Peak's-hole, probably Puck's-hole, alias Browney, a fictitious personage, formerly very famous in this country. Adjoining this is a small building roofed with limestone, which seems coeval with the castle, and as those kinds of buildings are said to have been erected by the Danes, perhaps both were built by that nation; it seems by an opening in the wall to have been intended for a necessary, but tradition is silent as to its original use or founder. A little northward of this building are some remains of an ancient church. The fineness of the day now determined me to return home by a circular route, so taking leave of my acquaintance, I took a path leading across the island towards the ferry; this part of my walk was solemnly delightful; sometimes the path led along the verge of a precipice, beneath which the waves were dashing with some fury against the rugged projections of the rocks, it being now about high water; at other times it sunk into a little dell, or meandered along the borders of corn fields, &c. "Where large increase had blessed the fruitful plains." In my course I came to a large stone, or rather rock, commonly called a Rocking-stone; it is several tons weight, yet can be moved with facility by the hand; these stones are sometimes called lagans or logans, and are said to have been engines of the druidical

priestcraft; this one, however, appears in its natural situation, and seems to have become tremulous by the earth being walked from about its base: I am the more confirmed in this opinion as there is one similar to the above on the Maiden, alias Whillan-rocks, which lie a few miles off the the entrance of Larne lough, where it is more than probable the Druids never resided.— I now arrived at the ferry, or entrance of Larne lough, which here divides this island from the mainland of the county of Antrim; but the boats which ply to and fro here were both at the other side; so I sat down on the beach to wait the coming of either. The prospect was pretty agreeable; on the opposite shore were several white houses with the ruins of the castle of Olderfleet, near which several brigs, sloops, &c. were lying at anchor, and gave the place an appearance of some trade; the breeze scarce curled the surface of the lough, which inflected southward and was soon lost from my sight; the view was terminated by high hills near the village of Glynn, which rise boldly and gave an air of wildness to this part of the prospect. I had not remained long in this situation when a boat arrived, and three other passengers arriving about the same time, we instantly embarked; and I shall now present the reader with a view of the persons, &c. of my fellow-passengers.

(To be Continued.)

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON TREATMENT OF PERSONS LIBERATED FROM PRISON.

The genuine philanthropy of W. L. in his essay on prisons, in your last number, is pleasingly conspicuous. Prisons indeed require a speedy and radical reformation. In-

stead of assisting to correct vice, and lessen the number of crimes, they have, under their present system of management, a tendency to give to vice a bolder and more hardened front, and by their dangerous reaction on society, to increase the number of objects for confinement within their walls. I am afraid, however, that W. L. overlooks a strong principle in human nature, if he suppose, that those who have had their manners still more corrupted in a prison, will on their acquittal, or the expiration of their sentence, voluntarily submit to a second confinement, however mercifully regulated, while almost all their wishes, powerfully increased by the idleness of a prison, have been turned to the period of liberation, when they may put in practice the lessons of additional depravity and knavery, which they have learned from their profligate associates, and come out greater pests to society, than they went in. Such evils are inseparably connected with the present system of jails, where promiscuous intercourse between offenders, and idleness tend most strongly to corrupt the human heart, and where a corrective restraint on their morals is almost totally wanting. To remedy the defects which W. L. so feelingly points out, I can see no other remedy, than for the friends of humanity to turn their undivided attention towards aiding Sir Samuel Romilly's benevolent plan of penitentiary houses, in which the moral improvement of the prisoners may be especially attended to, and such correctives used, compounded of a judicious mixture of solitary confinement, and hard labour, without excluding the strong stimulus of hope, in case of improvement, as has been found to be so efficient. In the American system of prison-management, the produce of the labours of the cri-

minal is applied to the payment of his expenses of maintainance, then to make restitution to the persons he has injured, and afterward to reimburse the county for the costs of his prosecution. Whatever remains, and it sometimes amounts to a handsome sum, is given to the offender on his liberation. He has thus had his morals probably considerably improved, and is turned out, with an opportunity to retrieve his shattered character, by future good conduct, and with a stock to assist his industry. If such a system could be realized in these countries, I think it would answer much better, and be of more practicable attainment, than a plan of a refuge for prisoners. It is very commendable in W. L. to offer his hints, for by a free communication of hints, and free comments on these hints, the science and practice of benevolence may be materially promoted and improved.

K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

OF THE ASSAULT ON JOSEPH PETERS
RICKMAN.

ON reading in the last month's magazine, the trial of Samuel Penrose, for the assault of Joseph Peters Rickman, in Cork, I was surprised to see at the conclusion of a note attached to it, something like a censure passed on the Quakers, for not *publicly* expressing their disapprobation of the cruel treatment of the prosecutor.

The author of this note may know the society are not in the practice of *printing* such publications. They however, ordered one of their members to *publish* on the evening of the same day, in their meeting for public worship, "that the transaction of the morning had taken place without their previous knowledge, and

entirely without their approbation or sanction—this they thought the least they could say to clear themselves of any imputation of blame which those of other societies might attach to them, saying also, that neither the person who had been treated in that manner, nor the person who had treated him so, were members of their society."

The Quakers also appear to be censured for not adhering to their own doctrine of forbearance. In *this* instance they have exercised some patience in quietly and repeatedly hearing a person of this description haranguing them "almost during the whole time of meeting." It is but common justice not to censure indiscriminately. As the proprietors of the Magazine profess to be the friends of free discussion, it is hoped they will not refuse to remove the censure thrown on a society, blameless in this instance. They cannot be accountable for the conduct of those not of their communion, which S. Penrose is not. From all the information I can collect, the only step taken against Rickman by the society, previous to the affair alluded to, was, to inform the people at the *conclusion* of his vehement sermons—that he was not a member of their society.

A friend to liberality,

M.

A letter was subjoined, giving a circumstantial account of the transaction, but as it differs little from the statement already published, and confirms the account of the cruelty of the traverser, it is not thought necessary to publish it, unless it is particularly desired. It is pleasing to find that the transaction was publicly censured by the society, but no trace of such disapprobation appeared in the account published in the newspapers. B.M.M.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

COW-POCK INSTITUTION, UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF HIS GRACE THE LORD LIEUTENANT, NO. 62, SACKVILLE-STREET.

Opened on the 14th of January, 1804, under the direction of the undersigned Physicians and Surgeons of this City, for the purposes of securing a succession of Cow-Pock Matter, of Inoculating gratuitously the Children of the Poor, and of supplying the different parts of the Kingdom with genuine Infection.

DIRECTORS.

Physicians.

JOSEPH CLARKE.

JAMES CLEGHORN.

THOMAS EVORY.

Surgeons.

GEORGE STEWART.

RALPH S. OBRE.

SOLOMON RICHARDS.

AN ABSTRACT FROM THE REGISTER OF INOCULATIONS AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATTER.

	<i>Patients Inoculated.</i>	<i>Packets issued to practitioners in general.</i>	<i>Packets to Army Surgeons.</i>
1804	578	776	236
1805	1,032	1,124	178
1806	1,356	1,340	220
1807	2,156	1,790	320
1808	3,002	2,285	333
1809	3,941	2,540	244
1810	4,084	3,249	284
<i>Totals.</i>	16,149	13,104	1815

The directors of this institution, have nothing material to add to, or subtract from, their REPORT of 1809. The addition of *four thousand* cases during the year 1810, tends only to confirm their belief in the efficacy,

safety, and policy of pursuing vaccine inoculation.

Some alarming accounts of the failure of vaccination, in the vicinity of Dublin, were propagated during the last year. On a careful investigation, they were found to have originated from falsehood, and ultimately tended, after numerous trials, to confirm the security afforded by vaccination.

In the last report, three cases were recorded, in which the vaccine infection formed fairly on the arm, and appeared to go regularly through its several stages, though the patients were not constitutionally affected. During the year 1810, one failure only of this kind has occurred. There appears no good reason for supposing that contingencies of this nature, will be more frequent in vaccine, than they have been in variolous inoculation.

The test proposed by Mr. Bryce, and recommended in the report of last year, has been practiced extensively by the directors. In a large proportion of cases, it has afforded very satisfactory evidence of constitutional affection. It can hardly be necessary therefore, to recommend to further notice, a practice calculated to obviate the principal objection to vaccine inoculation. Infection for the second inoculation, which should be performed on the opposite arm, may be always conveniently obtained, on the fifth or sixth day, from the vesicle, produced by the first insertion of virus.

The register does not afford a single instance of cow-pock exciting in the constitution any new or unheard of complaint; nor does it appear, that children who have had the cow-pock, are more subject than others to eruptions on the skin.

The following extract from the register of patients, at the general dispensary, in London, affords ample proof of this fact.

total number of diseases number of chronic cutaneous eruptions.

In the year 1797...1790.....	85
1798...1864.....	62
1804...1915.....	89
1805...1974.....	94

Vide Willan on Vaccine Inoculation.

The most satisfactory accounts of the progress of vaccination throughout the interior of Ireland, have been received from several correspondents of the institution. And the directors have great pleasure in observing the zeal and disinterestedness of the country practitioners, who sacrifice private interest to the public good, in strongly recommending the practice.

The directors have to acknowledge with gratitude, the privilege of a free and unlimited transmission of letters, relating to the institution, through the post office, which has contributed essentially to extend the benefits of vaccination throughout this island.

Signed by Order,

SAMUEL B. LABATT, *Secretary.*

January 1st, 1811.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE TRADING AND THE LANDED INTEREST.

IN opposition to a maxim of Dr. Hunter's, of York, that "trade gives narrow notions, but wide possessions," it may be asserted, that traders are more liberal, in general, than persons of landed property.—Ask one of those classes respectively for money for any charitable, or useful purpose, of a public nature, and the trader's donation will probably be given more freely, and

more largely. The quantity of ready money passing through his hands, and actually in his possession at one time, being greater than in the hand of the landed proprietor, may in part account for the readiness of parting. But the trader is less of an isolated being, he mixes more with the various classes of society, and his heart is consequently more expanded. As for the comparative degree of liberality, on religious and political subjects, the trader will in most cases be found the most tolerant, and especially more ready to join in plans for improvement, without being frightened by the bugbear of innovation. Traders find employment for their sons at home. The country gentlemen look more to provide for their younger sons in the church or the army. Hence arise political and ecclesiastical subjection; and the soldier and the churchman give a tone of servility to the manners of the family.

More independent is he, who according to the honest boast of Horne Tooke, can support himself and his family, without pulling one stake out of the public hedge, or adding a useless stipendiary to the overburdened state.

K.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

The memory and monuments of good men,

Are more than lives...

BEAUMONT AND FLETCHER.

SIR,

I have read of many great kings, but I think the most honest man that ever wore a crown was William the third. Nor do I believe that the whole course of history can afford us such a complete contrast of character, as is presented by him and his predecessor, by William

the *worthy*, and Charles the *worthless*. To the truth of this assertion sir William Temple is, in his memoirs, a most unexceptionable witness. He was an able man, attached to his king, Charles the 2d, by principle, and to his person, by the fascination of the royal manners, those attractive externals, which indeed give an embellishment to virtue, but often masque the purposes of the insincere and double-minded. I love, said some one, the light parts of a *solid* character, but that of Charles was made up of levity, selfishness, and deceit.

He employed Sir William Temple in commissions abroad, probably as an honourable spy upon the prince of Orange, and entrusted him to a *certain length*; that his own character might acquire or regain some degree of credit or confidence on the continent from the ability, and acknowledged integrity of his agent. But there was a sort of instinctive honesty in William, which held Charles always in distrust, and could not help displaying itself even before his envoy. "Will the king (Charles 2d) will your king said he to Temple, that is so often at sea, never learn a word that I shall never forget since my last passage, when in a great storm, the captain was all the night, crying out to the man at the helm—*STEADY, STEADY.*" Such, truly, was the epithet most applicable to his own character and conduct, always firm and inflexible "that he never would betray a trust that was given him, nor ever sell the liberties of his country, that his ancestors had so long defended." "I saw, said he, this morning, a poor old man, tugging alone, in a little boat with his oars, against the eddy of a sluice upon a canal, when with the last endeavours, he was just got up to the place intended, the force of the

eddy carried him quite back again, but he turned his boat as soon as he could, and fell to his oars again, and thus three, or four times while I saw him. This old man's business and mine resemble. I ought to do just as the old man did, without knowing what would succeed, more than he did." Such was the lively portraiture of his own patient magnanimity, even in the depth of political and personal misfortune, and the confidence in his personal honour and justice was the great bond of attraction in the confederacy against France, so much so indeed that some of his allies took the most ungenerous advantage of it.

"When they desired his highness (prince of Orange) would not take it ill of the queen (regent of Spain) the prince answered, "No, not at all; on the contrary, I have reason to take it well of the queen, for if she did not think me the honestest man in the world, she would not use me so; however, nothing of the kind shall hinder me from doing what I owe to my allies and my honour."

When this incomparable man was offered the sovereignty of the provinces, under the protection of England and France, it seemed a lure to which a meaner soul might very well stoop; his was above it, always firm in his answers, that he never would betray a trust that was given him nor ever sell the country of his ancestors; yet the game he played was then thought so desperate, that one of his nearest servants asked him at last, how he intended to live after Holland was lost, and whether he had thought so far. The prince told him he had, and that he was resolved to live on the lands he had left in Germany, and that he had rather pass his life in hunting there, than sell

his country, or his liberty to France at any price; and, at another time, said he, "for my own part, I would charge a thousand men with a hundred, and die in the charge, rather than enter into any concert of a peace upon these conditions. *"CUNCTA PRIUS TENTANDA."*

When Charles, after representing the inevitable ruin of his country as the consequence of his obstinacy in rejecting a peace with France, asked him what he would do, when that should happen, "*Die in the last Dike,*" answered William. This man is said to have been by nature most silent and reserved, but I think, when he does speak, he contrives to concentrate more meaning in three words, than that merry and garrulous monarch ever uttered in his life time, who was represented never to have said a foolish thing, nor to have done a wise one. It is in the contemplation of such a character as William presents to us, that we feel a portion of that sublime in word and action transferred to our own breasts; our hearts expand with great sensation, and in the sympathetic thrill of feeling, we are pleased and even somewhat proud of resembling, in some degree, what we venerate and admire. The best instruction for boys is the biography of great men.

That William had a heart made not only for the grand and sublime in public and political conduct, but to form and inspire the warmest personal affection, and most disinterested private friendship; is evident from the attachment of Bentinck to his master, in the most hopeless state of his affairs, when prince of Orange. He tended his master both night and day, during the whole course of the disease (small pox) from which he recovered, in great part, by his evenness of temper, and constancy of mind. Nothing

he took was given him, nor was he ever moved in bed, by any other hand than Bentinck's, and the prince told me, says sir Wm. Temple, that whether he slept or not, he could not tell; but in sixteen nights and days, he never called once that he was not answered by M. Bentinck as if he had been awake. The first time the prince was well enough to have his head opened and combed, Bentinck as soon as it was done, begged of his master to give him leave to go home for he was able to hold up no longer. He did so, and fell immediately sick of the same disease, and in great extremity; but recovered just soon enough to attend his master into the field, where he was ever next his person. It was in that campaign, when at Mont-Cassel, the Dutch infantry began to break, and William was borne down by the flight of his men, he cut one of the first across the face, crying, "rascal; I'll at least set a mark on thee, that I may hang thee afterwards," yet even then he made a retreat, that wanted little the honour of a victory.

He showed himself as worthy to be beloved by women, as to be respected and admired by mankind.—When he came over for the purpose of a matrimonial connexion with the princess Mary; he told Temple that he was resolved to see the young princess, and know, not by report of others, but with his own eyes, and his own heart, how he liked her, *before* he would proceed a step in the affair of the peace. The king *laughed at his piece of nicety*, when told of it. The prince saw and was pleased, then made his suit to the king and the duke, which was well received and assented to, but with this condition, that the terms of the peace should first be agreed upon. The prince said he must end one business before he began

D

the other. The king and duke were positive, the prince resolute, and at last he said, that his allies who were like to have hard terms of the peace as things then stood, would be apt to believe that he had made this match at their cost, and for his part he would never sell his honour for a wife. After the matter was nearly broken off, "well," said Charles (who was a shrewd judge of men and manners) I never yet was deceived in judging of a man's honesty by his looks, and if I am not deceived in the prince's face, he is the honestest man in the world, and I will trust him, and he shall have his wife." Mary formed the most affectionate and faithful wife that the history of princes has recorded, loving William with her whole heart and soul, her best judgement, and her warmest affections. Her letters while regent, to her husband, on the continent, are filled with proofs of her warm attachment, of her wisdom and steadiness as became the wife of such a man and of the most amiable tenderness and anxiety as a woman.

When William came to the throne of England, this worthy man, and excellent prince was so tormented with the contentions of parties, and intrigues of factions, that he often expressed a wish of returning to his native country. He was said to be king of Holland, and Stadtholder of England. Although by nature and education he was the friend of toleration, he was made by his ministers an unwilling instrument of persecution, in Ireland, and of cruelty in Scotland, in both instances probably without the least knowledge, on his part, of the nature of the private injury, in the one case, or of national injustice in the other. The manners of Charles were more agreeable to his people,

though a pensioner of France (such a shameful sight the world never saw as a king of England kept in pay throughout *his* whole reign, by another monarch!) yet were his manners more popular than the morals of the honest William. I am not however directing my attention to the politics of their reigns, but merely to the personal character of these sovereigns, on which indeed the public happiness or misery, the weal or woe of the empire most materially depend, and with this view I shall give the words of an historian, little read, which I think graphically describe William and Charles.

"A silence and reserve bordering upon sullenness, adhered to him (William) in the more retired scenes of life, and seemed to indicate not only a distaste for society, but a distrust of mankind.—He was greatly deficient in the common forms of attention. His favours lost much of their value by the coldness of the manner with which he conferred them. His warm and steady attachment to a few friends, demonstrated that he was not destitute of private friendship. He was occasionally surprised into indulgence of mirth and humour, which shewed that he was not insensible to the relaxation of social amusement. But the infirmities of his constitution, the depression of his early situation, a fatal experience of deceitfulness, and treachery, derived from his political intercourse with mankind, the seriousness and weight of those objects which continually pressed down his mind controuled a propensity, however strong, to confidence, affability and pleasantry, and introduced habits of constraint and gravity, which draw a veil over the attractions of virtue, and frequently contribute more than vicious affections, to render character unpopular.

In the character of Charles 2d, we are struck with a brilliancy of wit, and gracefulness of manners, destitute of any one ingredient of principle or virtue, with politeness, affability, gaiety, good-humour, every thing that captivates imagination, or gives delight at the moment.

In the character of William, we turn our eyes to sterling merit, naked and unadorned; to stern integrity, incorruptible patriotism, undaunted magnanimity, unshaken fidelity, but no splendid dress, or gaudy trapping to arrest the attention of the superficial observer. A deliberate effort of the understanding is necessary to perceive and estimate its merits. Charles, with all his vices, was beloved while he lived, and lamented when he died. William, with all his virtues, respected abroad, respected by posterity, never received from his subjects and cotemporaries at home, the tribute of affection and praise, adequate to the merit of his virtues, and the importance of his services."

I cannot forbear mentioning one or two more characteristic expressions of this great and good man.—When lord Basil Hamilton behaved at the council in the most violent way, saying, "he had a right to be heard, and would be heard." This young man, said the mild and magnanimous king, is too bold, "IF ANY MAN CAN BE TOO BOLD IN HIS COUNTRY'S CAUSE." When William, at the battle of Aughrim, asked count Hamilton, who had just then been taken prisoner, and who had once before broken his parole, whether he thought the enemy would make a stand? Upon my honour, said Hamilton, I believe they will. *Your honour! your honour!* replied the king, as he galloped away. The temple of honour, in this monarch's

mind, was only to be found by passing through the temple of virtue. At the close of his life, when his limbs were much swollen with the dropsy, Dr. Radcliffe was called in to consultation, and being one of those physicians who pushed his fortune by a certain bluntness of manner, he coarsely exclaimed, that he would not have his majesty's two legs, for his three kingdoms. William looked at him sternly: "What, sir, do you mean to frighten me?" "No, sir," answered Radcliffe, "but you will allow me to be afraid." The king never afterwards would suffer him in his presence.

Sir William Temple relates, that after a long conference he had with that insincere and treacherous monarch Charles the 2d, in which the honest counsellor laid before him what were his true interests in regard to religion and government, and ended with telling him what Gourville had once said to him, viz, "that a king of England who will be the man of his people, is the greatest king in the world, but if he will be any thing more, by God, he will become nothing at all."—The king, says he, heard me throughout attentively, though at first impatiently, yet, at last, he said, I had reason in all, and so had Gourville; and *laying his hand upon mine*, he added,—“and I will be the man of my people.” While all this time, and after this time, he continued to be the mean suppliant and pensioner of France. Did ever there appear to mankind such a contrast of honesty and hypocrisy, as the lives of these two monarchs have presented?

The liberties of Europe are much more endangered at present, than in the days of Louis the 14th, and call, with more urgent voice, for the

courageous perseverance, and unbiassed integrity of a William. May God grant, whether it pleases his divine providence that the Prince of Wales be regent, or be king of Great Britain, he may live and die
THE MAN OF HIS PEOPLE.

X.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE ALLOWANCE TO THE DISSENTING CLERGY, CALLED THE REGIUM DONUM.

QUERY.—Can the author of the Political Retrospect justify his frequent and severe attacks upon dissenting ministers, by pointing out a single condition in the grant of the Regium Donum, that encroaches upon the discipline, the doctrine, or the rights of the dissenting church.

SIMPLEX.

THE writer who on some late occasions, has in the political retrospect referred to the Regium Donum made his remarks as a politician, without reference to the discipline or doctrine of any church. He considers the augmentation of allowance to dissenting ministers, which took place under the auspices of Lord Castlereagh, as an improper addition to the burdens of the people, fraught with all the evils of an establishment on a subordinate plan. Of this increased burden, the members of the established church may have no just ground to complain, as they are in so much greater a degree partakers of unequal benefits. But the large portion of the population of Ireland, who are not included in either class, have reason to complain of the burden. To the lovers of freedom the measure is highly

objectionable, as increasing the overgrown influence and patronage of the crown, and teaching an important class in society, to look more to the governors than to the people for support. Let the comparative degrees of patriotism existing among the dissenting priesthood in 1782, and in the period since the augmentation, answer the question, as to the favourable or unfavourable influence on general liberty of this measure, introduced by the wily politician into the dissenting church, as a golden badge of subjection. The writer of the late remarks in the retrospect, leaves to others better qualified from local knowledge to answer as to the consistency of the Regium Donum with the constitution of the Presbyterian discipline.

The author of the Retrospect having done with Simplex, I would now take the liberty of observing, that the latter seems to be a member of the established church, under the guise of a presbyterian, who comes forward in the cause of one of those minor establishments, the number and variety of which in this kingdom it may soon not be an easy matter to enumerate. What makes this supposition the more probable, is the tone of his question, which implies that "no condition in the late grants of Regium Donum to different bodies of dissenters in Ireland, encroaches on the discipline, doctrine, or rights of the presbyterian church." No consistent presbyterian would have asked this question; for however some of them may attempt to justify the measure as a matter of necessity, owing to the inadequate stipend paid by many congregations, no one can seriously contend, that it is agreeable to presbyterian

principles. Some of the *essentials* of a presbyterian church I have understood to be, parity of rank amongst the pastors, and an unbiased choice of their pastors or ministers by the people. The first of these is surely encroached upon, when a body of presbyterian ministers accede to a scheme of *classification* proposed by government, whereby half of them receive, out of the public purse, a hundred pounds per annum, and half of them only fifty. I know that government does not pretend to give to *an individual* in the synod *two votes* when deciding on business brought before them; but I can perceive no difference betwixt the clergymen of the synod standing in the above predicament, and the members of the lower house of convocation in the established church, which is composed of clergymen of different ranks, denominations and emoluments, upon an equality as to votes, but possessing variety of influence derived from those other circumstances.

That this measure also renders those presbyterian clergymen affected by it more independent of their congregations than formerly, will hardly be disputed; and if this is agreeable either to the principles they profess, or the constitution of their church, or indeed ought to be desired by any conscientious minister of that persuasion, I have totally mistaken the nature, and misapprehended the spirit of presbyterianism. When the people find that government has taken upon itself the payment of their clergymen, and that instead of a voluntary stipend, the chief part of their support arises from an involuntary tax, they will be apt to slacken still more in their contributions, until the government stipend and their own shall bear no manner of proportion to each other. Under these circumstances, should any dis-

agreement arise between a congregation and their pastor, the latter may retire upon his sinecure; while the former long unaccustomed to make due provision for their spiritual instruction, may feel both careless and incapable of procuring another, and thus in a christian country be deprived for a time of the preaching of the gospel.

This last consideration would make against the expedience of dissenters in Ireland, entering into any partnership with the government for the support of their religion. It does not seem a mean well adapted for improving their morals, exciting their zeal, or increasing their respect for the teachers of christianity. If it has not this tendency, it cannot be a *good* measure; if it has an opposite effect, it ought to be deprecated as a dangerous auxiliary, an *insidious* ally of the religion of Jesus.

R.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

ON A REMEDY FOR THE INSECURITY
OF PAPER CURRENCY.

A SUBJECT that has employed the pens of so many able politicians, might seem to be exhausted, or at least to leave nothing for observation to those of an humbler description; but every thing may be contemplated in a variety of aspects, and a new point of view may present circumstances which have escaped the notice of former examiners. To collect remarks of this nature is one office of a periodical miscellany; and as what the writer has here to propose is intended in truth and sincerity to benefit society, it is hoped its publication in the magazine will not be thought altogether superfluous.

Fiction now seems to reign trium-

phant: and our statesmen to surpass in it the most extravagant flights of the poets. We have been led by insensible degrees to believe in the fiction, that bits of paper are guineas; we have been compelled to swallow the fiction, that a great silver seal is king of these realms, and are made to obey acts passed by his most ponderous majesty; what are we to expect next? or rather what are we not to expect? when the chief of the opposition tells us, that "to do away fiction would be to abolish law itself." And the highest legal authority of the ministerial party asserts, in the most solemn manner, which place and circumstances can constitute, that invalidating the potency of *fiction*, "might affect the course of judicial administration, and even the private property of every man in the house of lords," and of course of every man in the kingdom.

At these astonishing assertions, we humble plain matter-of-fact-men can only look up and wonder, that such declarations should be made by such great and sapient authorities, in favour of a parcel of tales, which to our unsublimed imaginations, seem little superior to those of the nursery, where infantine feigners make-believe that scraps of earthenware are the well furnished dishes of a sumptuous entertainment; while the higher powers of the place,—their nurses, impose on them the soul subduing *fiction*, that some grim portrait a century old, is the true raw-head and bloody-bones, and will actually come down from his frame, when called on, to enforce their decrees. It must be owned however, that a seal king is perfectly homogeneous, and matches well with fiction-law, and paper-guineas: Would to God their duration was to be the same also! The reign of king Argent the first can-

not be long, but of the termination of fiction-law and paper-guineas, alas! there is no prospect.

Besides the metals which are commonly used for money, a variety of other articles have been, and are still used in various parts of the world: Iron and leather have been applied to this purpose formerly, even in Europe, and in Africa masses of salt of four or five pounds weight, and a particular species of shells, pass current in the dealings of the people; even the American savages have some sort of circulating medium to assist their traffick; which shews, that whatever was the expence to society of the material employed for money, it was found to amply repay this by the various benefits it afforded to commerce, or the original, and more simple mode of dealing, by barter, would not have been laid aside for it universally, in all nations, as if by common consent.

The invention of bills of exchange, which is generally supposed have originated in Italy, is not of any remote antiquity: Bank-notes, and private notes of hand, soon followed; but paper securities of this description were not used as we use them at present (speaking according to common information), before the period of the American war. The distinction between the two modes of using paper securities, here alluded to, does not seem to have been noticed as much as it deserved in the writings on this subject; and it is the more important to mark it accurately, as the one is very beneficial to society, and the other extremely the reverse, and much of the sophistry by which that which is injurious has been upheld, has originated from confounding the two together, and calling them by one appellation.

Bank-notes were originally used as

the *representatives* of gold or silver coin: the idea of using paper securities as the *substitutes* for coin, is not older than the period mentioned, when the Americans used it in this way, and we all remember when it was first applied in this manner at home, as well as the *person to whom we are indebted for its introduction. When notes represented guineas, they could at any time be exchanged for them at the banker's who passed them; and in this way had all the advantages which the advocates for paper money have taken such good care all should know; but no sooner are they used as substitutes for guineas, or as a circulating medium that cannot be converted into the specie they stand for at the bankers, than they begin to produce those evils, which we have so sensibly felt of late years; which evils increase with more or less rapidity, according to the circumstances of the countries where they are used, till at last all become sensible of their cause, and then those paper plagues vanish, "and like the baseless fabrick of a vision, leave not a wreck behind." They resemble the vision indeed, in being the offspring of imagination, for to this faculty of the mind alone are they indebted for any value, but in their mode of termination the difference is great: For when a dream ceases, the horrors it may cause are at once dissipated, but when the delusion relative to paper substitutes is over, then the worst evils of all commence.

Paper not convertible into cash at the issuer's house, leaves too much in the power of the banker, and is a temptation to risk the properties of others, which must require more virtue to resist than ordinarily falls to the lot of mankind. In this system from the banker only can we

get nothing, while from others we get whatever renders notes valuable; which shows its injustice clearly, both as it prevents us from getting any thing from the person, who is most bound in reason to give it; and at the same time enables him to possess himself of our property, for what in itself is worthless.

That bankers pursue this advantage with avidity, appears from a circumstance hitherto unobserved; which is, that they issue notes, which have the effect of notes for ten shillings, notes for five and six pence, and notes for two shillings and nine pence, while they appear to be for very different sums; these are the thirty shilling notes, those for two guineas, and those for one guinea; which it is evident have the effect of notes issued for the small sums mentioned, whenever the buyer or seller, by exchanging guinea notes for others, receive them for such sums, or make them serve the purpose of so much silver, or other change. I have witnessed a degree of anxiety in a clerk at the bank of Ireland to pass thirty shilling notes, instead of one pound notes, which appeared to me ludicrous, before I understood what is here stated; but now this very circumstance convinces me that the bankers have long understood the effect of these notes, though the public did not. Writers of eminence have so clearly explained the mode in which the issue of unconvertible paper increases its injurious effects, in proportion as the sum for which each note passes is smaller, that it would be superfluous to add any thing on the subject, and I shall only observe therefore, that the same reasoning which they have used to show the increase of injury to the public, from the bank of England issuing notes of smaller value successively, from twenty pounds to ten

* First, a great man now no more.

pounds, five pounds, and one pound. will also apply to the issue of notes made to pass, in the manner mentioned, for ten shillings, five shillings and six pence, two shillings and nine pence, &c. &c. as well as for the various intermediate sums for which they can be made to answer, by interchanges of notes of this description for one another.

The only objection of much weight, which the researches of the advocates for paper have been able to point out against the use of gold and silver coin, is the expence of the purchase of so much of these metals, as would be required for the current cash of the nation; which certainly would amount to a large sum; but though convinced, that the advantages of cash payments in the old manner, would amply counterbalance this inconvenience, yet also knowing well the power of those who are interested in keeping up the delusion relative to the paper substitutes for coin, it seems to me unlikely, that this desirable change will be effected before some fatal distress, from the present system, shall compel the public at once to abandon it. In reflecting whether some other expedient might not be found to deliver the public from the risks they run by bankers, as well as from the other evils of paper substitutes, the following method occurred; to suggest which has been the chief object of this paper, written in hope that it may chance to catch the attention of some one of sufficient influence to procure it attention, if the advantages it may possess, are not counteracted by inconveniences, which have escaped my research: or that, if it has not this good fortune, it may produce a discussion of the subject, which may lead to the discovery of some better expedient.

The chief circumstance which

prevents the public from seeing the difference between using paper as the representative of money, as formerly, or as money itself, as now done, is that every tradesman who passes a note, adds a value to it, equivalent to a certain portion of the goods which he sells; if a grocer, for example, passes a note, the receiver knows he can get a certain quantity of tea, or sugar, from him for it, whenever he chuses to bring it back to him again: and this removes any scruple he might have in receiving it. In short, all who circulate notes, are obliged to give some valuable article for them again, if brought back to them, except the very people whom reason and justice point out as those, who above all others should do so—namely, the bankers; from whom we can get nothing of intrinsic value, as long as their credit continues good; and if they become bankrupt, only so much of our property converted into various effects, as they have not dissipated, and as shall remain after discharging enormous law expences of the commission.

The principle of what I have to purpose, consists in obviating this unjust inequality, and in enabling the public to obtain from the bankers real value for their property, whenever they shall prefer it: and besides effecting this, it will have the advantage of not occasioning any expence for a circulating medium, in which respect it will be preferable to coin, which, as before stated, must cost the nation large sums for the material of which it is made.

Gold, as long as it continues in the form of coin, can only be considered as representing the value of the articles, for which it is exchanged; but as it may at any time be melted down, and applied to other

purposes, it has besides an unalienable and unalterable value from this circumstance: bank notes in their original state, were the representatives of coin, but without the capability of being, like it, applied to other purposes equally valuable:

My plan consists in simplifying this proceeding, and, since we cannot have gold as a medium, making every bank note represent some other article of real and permanent value.

The articles which would most exactly answer this description, are iron, lead, block-tin, quicksilver, ivory, and salt, two of which have been used as money by other nations, as has been before observed. Other articles might also be applied to this use, which though not of such an unalterable nature, sufficiently approximate to it, to render them very serviceable for the same purpose; such as indigo, vignon wool, leather, linen, broad-cloth, refined-sugar, wax, isinglass, coals, soap, mahogany, logwood, and ebony.

Suppose now a banker kept a stock of iron, or of any of the articles mentioned, (in which he might trade also, as many bankers now do), and that his notes were drawn, promising Mr. *****, or order, so many tons, or other quantity, of best Swedish iron; or a specified portion of any other article of the above description in his warehouse. Would not such a note be perfectly negotiable? and would it not do as well as those now drawn for either what cannot be obtained, will not be paid, or has only an imaginary existence? while it would not be subject to the same risks.

This method, besides the advantages stated, would perhaps be a better check to prevent a banker from hazardous speculations, than even payments in coin; for his stock of iron, or whatever other ar-

ticle he dealt in, would be always visible to the public, whereas his stock of coin could only be estimated by secondary considerations.

Besides the articles mentioned for which notes might be drawn, bankers might also be enabled to negotiate the titles to portions of land, (which perhaps might be more convenient for large sums, than the other mediums proposed), in the following manner. Suppose a banker had an estate of 20,000 acres, this estate he might have divided into lots of ten, twenty, fifty, or one hundred acres, and have them valued by appraisers duly sworn, and made responsible by legal obligations for an honest statement; then notes might be circulated promising the transfer in fee on demand of lot, no. (**) of such an estate valued so much. Such transfers of land might be facilitated by act of parliament, and all frauds prevented by penalties inflicted by the same means. I would not propose that such a note should give an actual possession of the lot of land, but only entitle the holder to receive the proper title deeds of it, whenever he thought fit, reserving the right of settling leases of it under 21 years, and without fines, to the banker, till the actual conveyance of it was made. Houses, rents of ground built on, and other immoveable property, might be made the subject of such notes, but they would not be so eligible as land, on account of their being of a less certain, and permanent value.

Among the articles mentioned in the first head, there is one that appears to be very fit for a circulating medium, if secured in proper packages, (which might be easily effected), namely quicksilver, which is about four times the value of copper for an equal weight, occupies little more than half its space, and

cannot be much adulterated without sensibly altering its fluidity, and the fraud being easily detected in other ways.

Ivory and indigo might also seem proper for this same purpose, as ivory is still more valuable than quicksilver, and indigo about twice the price of it; but the first could not be divided into less than whole teeth, without lessening its value; and there are so many different sorts of indigo, that it would be difficult to have them known generally enough for common use.

Ivory would however answer very well for the subject of notes of the description mentioned, but it is probable that leather would be still better for this purpose, as it is of more general utility, is in greater plenty, and being weight for weight about the same price as wrought copper, would not require much space for a bulk of great value. Refined sugar in loaves, if kept in a dry place, would also be fit for this use, being an object of general consumption.

A few years ago, a circumstance occurred in Waterford, which in a good measure shewed how useful a plan of this kind would be to the public, and in a manner gave an example of it by anticipation. A banker in that city stopped payment, who had a large warehouse for the sale of hardware, and some other articles, carried on either in his own name, or that of his brother, I do not now exactly remember which; a brother of his also dealt in groceries to a large amount, in which business the banker was supposed to have some concern likewise; on the stoppage, notes to a certain amount (I think all under £5.) were received in payment at those warehouses for any articles wanted: and notwithstanding the hurry caused by the crowds anxious for payment, very little loss or inconvenience was occasioned by

this mode of payment, and I am sure none at all would, but for the hurry. I speak on this point from experience, for I had some of these small notes at that time, and can testify, that I lost nothing at all by receiving goods instead of cash for them.

Permit me in concluding to hope, that presenting this communication for publication without more preparation, will not be deemed disrespectful to your readers; the hints thrown out here, if of any use, appearing likely to be of more service, by being speedily made known, than by being kept back for some weeks longer, for the sake of giving them a better form.

In what has been asserted here relative to notes, nothing is meant to the prejudice of bankers individually; country bankers particularly, being obliged to be furnished with notes of the national bank, may be more considered as fellow-sufferers from the present system of paper currency, than as aiding it: neither can the company of the national bank be justly blamed for the use they make of their privileges: but in justice and truth, the whole reprehension should fall on those ministers, who, for their own purposes, and through a mistaken policy, have given, and still continue to bankers, a power resembling that of those fabled magicians, who by writing cabalistical characters on paper, could transfer the property of others into their own coffers, and change a fertile and populous country into a desolate wilderness. B.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

IN a late number of your Magazine, Mr. Ensor is quoted as re-

proaching the people in general for their little inclination to political reform, and his reviewer seems to coincide in the propriety of the remark. I am disposed to think the observation arises from a superficial view of human nature, and that this disinclination to change is the bal-
 last which can alone give a proper degree of steadiness, in the agitation and fluctuations of life.

The truth appears to be, that in mind there is a *vis inertiae* as well as in matter. This resistance to change seems to be a general law of nature, and human nature, far from forming any exception to it, is included in this law. The more we know of the laws of matter, the deeper we shall penetrate into the nature of mind. The study of medicine, taken in its most extensive sense, will be found the master-key into the mysteries of metaphysics, and such a physician as Dr. Hartley, is best qualified to become the clearest and most satisfactory metaphysician. The great and comprehensive law of association will be found but a variety or additional exemplification of the still more general law of attraction, and those theories of mind, which begin upon the supposition of it not possessing a single quality in common, but all its qualities contrary to those of matter, will end in confusion worse confounded, like the theories of the world before the discovery of the Copernican system.

It appears to be a law of our nature, that every repetition creates a facility of action. The frequent repetition of action occasions a habit which renders the subsequent repetitions more easy, and the action more certain. An action once repeated is an approximation to a habit. All our nature illustrates the line of Shakespear, perhaps the

best moral philosopher that ever existed.—

“How use doth breed a habit in a man.”

If there be, by repetition, a facility of action in one way, there will arise a difficulty, proportionally increased according to the frequency of repetition, of acting in any other manner. It is this greater facility in doing what has been already done, and greater difficulty in altering a course of action, which tends to preserve uninterrupted, the order and regularity of all the vital, natural, and animal functions, and in general the *tenor* and *continuity*, if I may so speak, of human nature. It is thus a character is formed by a nation, which is only the collection of the habits of individuals, and without such habits, a people would always continue children, or *changelings*; a word which classes the disposition to change, with the extremity of folly.

“All men,” says Herodotus, “are tenacious of their own customs. Darius once sent for such of the Greeks as were dependent on his power, and asked them what reward would induce them to eat the bodies of their deceased parents. They replied, that no sum could prevail on them to commit such a deed. In the presence of the same Greeks, who by an interpreter were informed of what had passed, he sent also for the Callatizæ, a people of India, known to eat the bodies of their parents. He asked them for what sum they would consent to burn the bodies of their parents? The Indians were disgusted at the question, and intreated him to forbear such language.”

It is long after reason is convinced, before habit, either individual or national, can be broken. The famous argument against high roads, is

universally applied:—"Our forefathers went through the dirt, and why should not we?" A new experience always brings along with it a degree of *hazard* and *uncertainty* with respect to the event, which indisposes the generality of mankind from too readily adopting it. Hobbes said, by way of accusation, that men follow one another like sheep, in the trodden path, and, added he, "if I had bestowed as much time in reading, as men of letters, I should have been as ignorant as they are." Indeed the art of printing, under one point of view, may be said to have repressed what is called originality, by pre-occupying the mind with a train of borrowed ideas, and it requires very considerable energy, and innate vigour, to spring out of the beaten track, and by doing so, it is ten to one that you fall into the ditch. Were every farmer to follow implicitly the schemes of agricultural theorists, mankind would long ago have starved for want of bread. The first adventurers in any *real* improvement generally fall a sacrifice before their schemes have ripened into any maturity, and operate as a warning against the imitation of their example. All change should have the be-

nefit of experience, and therefore ought to be very gradually progressive.

Two great parties divide, and distract Europe. One party wish to maintain the established order, momentous in power, and property, willing to shackle accident, and bolt up change, the great mass of landed and mercantile wealth, the vast majority of all professions, the numerous adherents to government, the advanced in years, the timid in spirit, the contented in disposition, and in fine, all those who wish not to risk the present for eventual good. It is not then matter of surprise, that such a ponderous, and patient part of every community, should preponderate against the young, the sanguine, the enthusiastic, against the few, comparatively few, who unwilling to wait for the gradual melioration of their species, devote their time, and their talents, their properties, and often their lives, to accelerate the progress of human improvement. Ah! the blockheads, let them wait—let them keep their minds to themselves, their hands in their pockets, and their heads upon their shoulders.

A. R.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

MEMOIR OF THE REV. GEORGE WALKER.

Continued from p. 437, No. XXIX.

We have to apologize to our readers for the length of this article of biography. Mr. Walker himself had an interesting character, in which there was much to admire and imitate. His politics, the sample of better days, require republication in this day of apathy; and the present number affords a good account of the appli-

cation of dissenters to parliament to be relieved from the disabilities under which they labour, on account of their religious opinions; a subject intimately connected with the cause of religious liberty, but which lies too much neglected at present: yet it is of far more importance, than the receiving of a demi-establishment for the dissenting clergy, and the principles of dissent are much more intimately connected with it.

[I]N consequence of the adoption of this plan, and of the favourable issue of Mr. Beaufoy's motion in May 1789, when success appeared to have been nearly within their reach, the majority against them being only twenty-four, the dissenters were encouraged to more vigorous exertions. In the spirit of elation which these augmented hopes produced, general meetings were held, committees formed, and resolutions entered into, expressing in firm but moderate language a sense of hardships to which they were subjected, the grounds on which they claimed the restoration of their rights, and their determination to persevere, until they had obtained that redress, which both justice and policy dictated. The following resolutions, drawn up by Mr. Walker, and unanimously approved at a meeting of deputies from the counties of Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Warwick, Salop, Stafford, Leicester, Rutland and Yorkshire, are declaratory of the principles avowed at their most respectable meetings, and of the grounds on which they defended their claims.

" Resolutions :

" 1. That it is not the province of the civil magistrate to direct, or to interfere with the religious opinions or practices of any members of the state, provided their conduct be not injurious to others.

" 2. That all the subjects of the state, conducting themselves in an equally peaceable manner, are equally entitled, not only to protection in the possession of their civil rights, but also to any civil honours or emoluments, which are accessible to other subjects, without any regard to their religious opinions or practices.

" 3. Desiring nothing for ourselves but the same equal and liberal treatment, to which we think

all other persons in a similar situation are equally entitled, it is our earnest wish, that an equal participation in all civil privileges may be obtained for dissenters of every description, to whom nothing can be objected, beside their religious opinions or practices, and who can give that security for their civil allegiance, which the state ought to require.

" 4. That the protestant dissenters of this country have always had reason to complain of unjust treatment, in being disqualified to hold offices of civil trust or power, though their behaviour has ever been peaceable and loyal, and though they can even boast peculiar merit, as friends to the present government.

" 5. That it becomes dissenters, as men feeling their own disgraceful situation, and the opprobrium which this reflects upon their country, to adopt every constitutional method of procuring the redress of their grievances, and thus retrieve the honour of the nation.

" 6 As one principle ground of our abhorrence of the test laws is the prostitution of religion to interested and secular views, and as these laws therefore ought to be equally abhorred by every friend of pure religion, we invite every conscientious fellow subject of the established church to concur with us, assuring them, that in this proceeding we sympathize with them, as we wish them to sympathize with us, and each contribute to do away this reproach and profanation of our common religion. But if it should be deemed more honourable to themselves to act apart from us, we invite them as a separate body to come forward, and in some decided manner bear their testimony to a cause, which does equal honour to both.

" 7. That with the same decided

tone, with which we assert our rights as men and christians, and protest against all interference of the magistrate in the proper cause of religion, we repel with scorn the imputation of all meaner and baser views. We have no latent ambition under the mask of religion.—We are as superior to hypocrisy, as we are to fear. We aspire not to one emolument or honour to the church. In our civil capacity we vow as pure a loyalty, as generous and ardent an affection, as liberal exertions, and as well informed and as well principled an attachment to the constitution of our country, as its most favoured and honoured subjects can pretend to.—Our reverence of Britain, her government and laws, is only in subordination to our reverence of God and of human nature.

“8. That though the particular grievance of the corporation and test acts has been the means of convening us, as part of the body of dissenters, we think it our duty to use our utmost endeavours to procure the repeal of all penal statutes in matters of religion, as this is clearly comprehended within our just rights; and are persuaded, that in this we meditate nothing new, as religious liberty ever will and must be defective, while one such penal law is suffered to exist.

“9. That in contending for our civil rights, we mean nothing hostile to the religious principles of the church of England, or to any religious principles whatever, holding it as a maxim, that nothing of this nature is within the province of the civil magistrate: we therefore will not be considered as responsible for whatever any individual, belonging to any part of the body of dissenters, may publish for or against any religious tenets; we consider it as every man's right to do whatever

under the influence of a love of truth he may think proper in that respect; but publications, not expressly authorized by any body of men, should not be imputed to that body.

“10. That a permanent mode of collecting the sense and waiting the efforts of the whole body of dissenters of every denomination, so that they may have their representatives to meet in London or elsewhere, and make proper application to the legislature as circumstances may require, appears to be a measure well calculated to promote the desirable end above mentioned.

SAMUEL SHORE, JUN. *Chairman.*”

At the request of the committee of the midland district formed at the above meeting of deputies, Mr. Walker undertook, in an appeal to the nation, published under the title of the *Dissenter's Plea*, to defend more at large the claims of the dissenters, and to repel the arguments, that had been opposed to them.—Of the manner in which he executed the task assigned to him, it would be superfluous here to speak, after the commendations which have been passed upon it by two individuals so capable of appreciating its merit as the late Mr. Fox, and Mr. Gilbert Wakefield, who have both declared their opinion of its superior excellence, in pronouncing it to be the best pamphlet published on a subject, which had exercised the pens of the ablest writers of the day. As the advocate on this occasion of the dissenters, he did not merely confine himself to those arguments, which had a reference to the circumstances of the times, or that applied peculiarly to the nature of the subject immediately in view; but in deducing them from the original principles of human nature, and the constitution of civil society, he has established them on a broader and

firmer foundation, and has exposed the facility and sophistry of every plea, that can be urged by those, who, as the advocates of a test, would sacrifice to the notions of speculative utility the unalterable laws of justice, and subject the most sacred acts of devotion to the profanation of interested and wordly views.

It might have been expected, that this and other treatises of a similar kind, which brought forward into such full view the merits of their cause, would have so far removed the prejudices of the public, that the issue of another trial would have crowned their exertions with success, but the hope was vain.

When some in the minority, on the division in May 1789, expressed their satisfaction and their hopes, they were authoritatively told, that *never again would so near an approach be permitted*: a prediction which, fatally for the dissenters, was fulfilled on the division that followed Mr. Fox's motion on the second of March 1791, when it was found, that this spirit had so far operated upon the temper of the house, as to increase the majority against them from 20 to 180, the numbers being 294 to 105.

As the chairman of the associated dissenters, Mr. Walker was requested by several ministers to prepare an address to Dr. Priestley, expressive of their common concern at the horrid outrages, which he had lately experienced from an ignorant and misguided multitude, whom the malice of bigotry and the rancour of party had stimulated to those violent proceedings, that have affixed an indelible disgrace upon the national character. In compliance with this he composed the following address, which was afterwards signed by a very respectable number of ministers of the different denominations.

Address:

"To the Rev. Dr. PRIESTLEY.

SIR,

"We the dissenting ministers of Nottinghamshire and Derbysire, of the presbyterian, independent, and baptist persuasions, associated as brethren and interested in the common cause of religious liberty, present our very respectful and affectionate condolence for the outrages to which you have been subject. Though many of us differ from you in matters of religious faith, we trust that we have better learnt the spirit of our excellent religion, than not to esteem in you that character of piety and virtue, which is the best fruit of every faith and that ardour for truth and manly inquiry, which christianity invites, and which no form of christianity ought to shrink from; as well as to admire those eminent abilities, and that unwearied perseverance, which give activity to the virtues of your heart, and to which in almost every walk of science your country and the world have been so much indebted.

"That such virtues and such abilities should invite persecution, is a melancholy proof, that neither philosophy nor christianity have yet taught their most dignified and amiable lessons to our country.— But though man will feel, and your enemies have attacked you in that way wherein you feel perhaps most sensibly, yet we rejoice to find in you that decent magnanimity, that christian bearing, which raises you superior to suffering; and that a regard to God, to truth, and to another world, have even from the bosom of affliction enabled you to extract a generous consolation.— Whether in your religious inquiries you have erred or no, we firmly believe, that truth and the best interests of mankind have been the object of your constant regard; and

we trust, that that God, who loves an honest and well-meaning heart, will dispense to you such protection, as to his wisdom may seem most fit. To his benevolent and fatherly protection we devoutly recommend you through the remainder of your life; praying, that you may be long preserved, that you may survive the hatred of your ungrateful country, and that you may repay her cruel injuries by adding, as you have hitherto done, to her treasure of science, of virtue and of piety.

"This tribute of our esteem and sympathy for you, sir, we entreat you to receive with that regard, which we know the purity of it deserves; and though not recommended by the rank of life we hold, we trust that you, a philosopher and a christian, will think it not undeserving of a place among the very respectable testimonies of esteem and condolence, which both at home and abroad your merits and your sufferings have invited.

"From you, sir, we turn, respectable as you are, and embrace the present occasion of appealing in a short address to our country, which has discovered so hostile a spirit to our whole dissenting body. We cannot affect to be ignorant of it, and we mean to complain of it with that plainness and freedom, which becomes us as men, as Britons, and as christians. Instead of concealed or open malignity, we do assert our claim to public goodwill, as faithful and virtuous citizens. In times of danger, with our lives and fortunes we have vindicated the rights of our country, we have ministered to her most valuable interests, we have been the foremost in her ranks, nor has our fidelity or affection been marked with one public stain; and in times of security, by an obedience to the laws

and by an active industry, we have largely contributed to her prosperity. Such has ever been our character as citizens, nor can one public crime be proved upon us; unless it be a crime to differ in religion, to choose our religion from the best judgment of our own minds. Strange that in this enlightened day, and in this protestant land, that should be deemed a crime, which even popery has learnt to excuse; which is of the very essence of a protestant's character; which the nature of religion requires; which the spirit of the gospel enjoins; which in every view is one of those unalienable rights, that man never can abandon; which cannot be the object of political controul or regulation, as it respects not man but God, and challenges all, the governors and the governed, as equal subjects. But though we assert this right as not amenable to human legislation, we plead that it is perfectly innocent; we molest not the freedom of any one, we resist not even the things which we can never approve; we submit where conscience is not wounded, where proper religion is not profaned; and though assuredly wishing the progress of truth and piety and virtue, we meditate not the reformation of error, nor the correction of evil, nor the very interests of christianity, but by appealing to the understanding of men, and by a dependance on the concurring agency of God.

"Having therefore this claim on the protection of all wise and good government, we do, in this public appeal, solicit the return of that good will from our fellow subjects, which we are entitled to, and which we are honestly disposed to return. In nothing but this general good-will can we be safe, as has been awfully witnessed in the horrid outrages at Birmingham, which were immediate,

ly directed against the dissenting name, and which never could have broken forth, if they had not been thoughtlessly or wickedly ministered to by propagating and encouraging throughout the whole kingdom an alienation of heart from dissenters.

"But even to procure this good-will, we can make no dishonest promises; our religion such as our own minds approve, we neither can nor will abandon; nor on the ground of this religion can we ever cease to protest against every deprivation of civil right to which power has subjected us. If for this a national malediction must continue to go forth against us, we wish our enemies soberly to consider, that national maledictions, however weakly founded, are those scourges, which folly and wickedness may let loose, but which neither wisdom nor virtue, nor perhaps all the organized powers of government can restrain.

"With this reserve of freedom in religion, freedom in the rational defence of our religion, we are subjects of the British state, and have no views, no wishes but what are connected with this character; and inasmuch as any honest son of Britain ought to promise, we pledge ourselves for civil obedience, for peace, for good-fellowship, and for a generous contest in all the course of industry and virtue. Confident that we shall not violate this pledge we respectfully solicit protection, trust, good-will, and the pleasant sympathy of fellow-citizens and fellow-christians. We love our country, we prefer it to every other under heaven, but with our ideas of country are inseparably connected liberty, law, and good-fellowship. If these should be irrecoverably lost to us in this land, every land will be our country, where these blessings shall be presented."

Signed in the name of the associated body by the members present.

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About this time he was engaged in a correspondence with Mr. Grey, upon the subject of parliamentary reform. On the 6th of May 1793, this gentleman was to move the house of commons upon this subject, on which occasion petitions were to be presented from the metropolis and other districts. As an additional support he was desirous also, that it should be countenanced by the town of Nottingham, for which purpose a petition drawn up by Mr. Walker, and signed by a very respectable proportion of its population, was presented, but the freedom of its language occasioned it to be rejected. The passage that excited this repugnance in the house to its acceptance, was the following: "from various causes, the constitution of these kingdoms has passed into the grossest abuses, so as to insult the common sense of the nation with a name, when the reality is gone." The presenting of the petition was postponed at Mr. Pitt's special request, which was made in order that he might be present to press the rejection of it.

A prevalence of the same evil counsels, which had refused the just claims of the dissenters, and which had rejected every application for the correction of those abuses in the constitution, that were productive of such injurious consequences, was now about to precipitate the nation contrary to every principle of justice and political expediency, into a war without one definite object in view, but originating solely in that invariable hostility, which it had displayed to whatever tended to enlarge the principles of civil liberty. To prepare the public mind for the adoption of this measure, every effort was made use of, by insinuations of disloyalty and revolutionary principles, to direct

the passions of the multitude against all who possessed sufficient courage and wisdom to oppose themselves to the mad projects of the minister. To the animosities thus wickedly excited may be attributed the popular excesses at Birmingham. In the town also in which Mr. Walker resided it had engendered such a rancorous spirit of party, that it came to be in a considerable degree unsafe, to express a difference of opinion from those, who were attached to the measures of ministers. No apprehensions of this kind however could deter him from exerting his individual efforts, to arrest if possible the progress of those fatal measures, which were pregnant with so much ruin to the country. While the war was yet only impending, but after the hostile disposition of government had been sufficiently evinced, he endeavoured in a popular address to his fellow-townsmen, signed by twenty-six of its principal inhabitants, to convince them of the injurious consequences, that it must inevitably occasion to the interests of their manufacturing district, as well as to the general prosperity of the country. The application was not in vain. A petition for peace, composed by Mr. Walker and signed by about 3000 names, was presented to parliament in aid of Mr. Grey's motion, in 1793, a measure which also was adopted at his special request.

The energies France had displayed in defence of her independence, and the unexampled success, which had attended the progress of her arms, had annihilated every expectation of success founded on the supposed imbecility of her disorganized government; yet the blood and treasure of the nation continued to flow with a prodigality unexampled in former wars, and for the prosecution of objects adapted at the

mere caprice of the minister to the existing circumstances of the times and artfully varied for the purpose of protracting the national delusion. The same cause, therefore, that had originally excited the patriotic efforts of Nottingham, continuing to exist, similar petitions were subsequently presented. But the efforts of Mr. Walker were not limited to this object, other important topics continued occasionally to exercise his pen. The great cause of parliamentary reform was not abandoned.—The abolition of the slave-trade, during the time in which it was advocated, occupied a considerable portion of his attention.—The attempt of ministers in 1795, to establish a new and undefined law of treason, under the pretence of better securing his majesty's person and government, and for more effectually preventing seditious meetings and assemblies; an attempt which excited the first appearance of national opposition to their hitherto triumphant course; was regarded by him as a measure that aimed at one rude blow utterly to subvert all the rights of Englishmen, and introduce a military despotism.

The limits which it is requisite to prescribe to this memoir will prevent a more minute detail of various other measures, in which he was equally engaged, for promoting the welfare of his country, as well as the local interests of the town in which he resided; but the above sketch will suffice, to exhibit the leading principles of his public conduct, as well as the great activity and power of his mind, who, notwithstanding the numerous avocations of his private life, could yet devote so considerable a portion of this time and attention to the service of the public. It has been asserted that patriotism is a virtue of so sublime a form,

that none but great and exalted minds are capable of conceiving it. To dedicate your time and your talents to the service of the state ; to pursue great and extensive plans of public reformation ; to encounter the hazard of persecution, of popular odium and outrage, influenced by no motive but a benevolent desire to promote the general improvement of mankind ; is indeed too refined and abstracted a principle of action for common minds to apprehend. It is not that low and vulgar attachment to country, which is the effect of mere local prejudices, which acknowledges no higher law than what is derived from the principle of national partiality, and which in its blind zeal is equally as apt to promote measures that are injurious, as those that are beneficial to the welfare of the community. But the true patriot will act from higher and more enlarged conceptions of the public good. In his endeavours to promote it, he will ever adhere to those principles, on which the well-being of society in general depends, which have a reference to the great and permanent interests of man in every age and nation, and on which his progressive advancement in knowledge, virtue, and happiness is founded. In subordination to these he will ever zealously contend in the service of his country ; but, opposed to them, even his country will be regarded as of secondary consideration. In this higher acceptance of the term therefore, patriotism is but a branch of that unlimited benevolence, which embraces the interests of humanity at large ; which is founded on those universal and immutable obligations, that are paramount to all considerations of self, of friends, of kindred, or of country. This is indeed an exalted principle of action, superior to all the boasted patriotism of the Greeks and Romans,

which scarcely the more liberal and enlightened maxims of the present age can altogether adopt, but which is in perfect unison with the all-embracing philanthropy of that religion, which enjoins the practice of universal charity, which regards the whole human race but as members of one common family, as the children of one universal parent, equally the subjects of his providence and the candidates for his favour.

Such were the maxims upon which Mr. Walker regulated his public conduct, and in conformity with them he may appear at times to have adopted politics hostile to the interests of his country. Throughout the whole of the American war, and during the commencement of the war with France in 1793, notwithstanding as an Englishman he felt the shame of national defeat and humiliation, yet in contests so unjust he deprecated the success of his country's arms. But, though his patriotism could not in his opinion supersede the unalterable laws of right, no one ever felt a purer or more ardent attachment to his native soil. He gloried in the name of Briton ; he loved his country, because he regarded it as the seat of liberty, of sacred law and justice, of science, of arts, of civilization. To preserve this proud pre-eminence, to transmit unimpaired to future generations these distinguishing advantages, which he had received as the fairest portion of his inheritance, was with him a sacred duty, for which he held himself accountable to God, to his country, and to posterity. And though it was his fate through life, to pursue a thankless and fruitless office in struggling against the vicious establishments of civil society, the corrupt and destructive policy of a selfish world, yet this did not

relax his exertions, or abate the ardour of his zeal.

His talents however were not calculated merely for public life. Few men were more eminently gifted with all those qualifications, that enable an individual to shine and interest in society. To the circle in which he moved his habitual cheerfulness of disposition, his lively and animated conversation, a good-natured pliancy of mind, that where the great interests of religion and morality were not concerned, would accommodate itself to the various tastes and understandings of those with whom he mixed, rendered him at all times a welcome guest. At one period of his residence at Nottingham, he was singularly fortunate in his society. A kind of literary club, composed of a few select individuals, was accustomed to meet alternately at each other's house. The members of this club were generally of a description superior to what most provincial towns are capable of affording, men of cultivated understandings, and of great moral worth. By a singular fatality, most of these his early associates, though considerably his juniors in age, were removed from the stage before him.

There were yet remaining several, to whom, from long habits of intimacy, from a real regard for the excellence of their characters, and from a feeling of gratitude for personal kindnesses, he was sincerely attached. To relinquish these friends who were endeared to him from so many considerations; to resign the regular exercise of a profession, to which he was warmly devoted; to quit a congregation, of which he had been the respected pastor for twenty-four years; and at an age that most would deem a sufficient plea for an exemption from the active

duties of life, to undertake the management of an institution, that required unceasing vigilance and great mental exertion, to which his whole time and attention must necessarily be devoted, and in which he must forego many personal comforts, evinced a vigour of mind, and a sacrifice of private feelings to public good, that perhaps few individuals under similar circumstances would have displayed. In this however he merely acted conformably to the tenour of his whole life; for never perhaps has there been a man, whose conduct was less influenced by a regard to self. Anxiety for the welfare of an institution, to the success of which he was taught to believe his personal services were necessary, alone dictated his removal to Manchester.

For the last two or three years of his continuing in this situation, he had also the additional charge both of the mathematical and classical department; so that the whole burden of the institution rested upon himself; and to this his advanced age and declining health were unequal.

As a member of the literary and philosophical society of Manchester, Mr. Walker was a frequent contributor to its memoirs; and upon the death of Dr. Percival, he was appointed to succeed him as president. He continued for nearly two years after the resignation of his office in the college, to reside in the neighbourhood of Manchester; a spot he was induced to prefer, as it afforded him the amusement of a large garden, to which he was all his life much attached. Finding however that this situation did not agree with his health, he once more changed his place of abode, and removed to the village of Wavertree, near Liverpool, where, after a long and active life spent in the cause

of truth, of virtue, and of religion; a life on which he could look back with satisfaction and find no cause for regret, he had determined to wear out the evening of his days, in the society of a few friends of congenial sentiments and dispositions, by whom he was respected and beloved. But it was permitted him for little more than a year to enjoy the happiness, which such a situation afforded; and a great part of this was spent under the languor of increasing weakness, and in preparing for the publication of his works, an exertion too great for his declining health, so that in all probability it accelerated his dissolution.

It was manifest that the increasing infirmities of age were stealing fast upon him: the powers of his mind however remained unimpaired, he displayed the same vigour of intellect, and his wonted cheerfulness still continued to enliven his hours of relaxation and social intercourse: the only observable difference was occasional fits of abstraction, during which it is more than probable that his mind was occupied by such serious reflections as the intimations of declining life are calculated to impress; for it was apparent that there was a more guarded collection of himself, a more evident attempt to repress that warmth of temper, that quickness of spirit, which through life had been his constitutional temperament, and which he himself has acknowledged that he possessed in a greater degree, than what with all his sense of duty to God and man, he had been well able to manage; and whence, from the inquietude of mind, and pain of self-condemnation, which the surprise of this passion had occasioned, had flowed many of the bitterest sensations which he had experienced in his passage through life. Had

he survived a few more years, it may be fairly presumed that he would have gone well nigh to have corrected a propensity so repugnant to his feelings and his principles, and where alone his moral character could with any justice be impugned.

In 1790 he had published two volumes of sermons. These had for several years been out of print, and having been much called for, he was induced to republish them with the addition of two other volumes.— This, with two volumes of essays which he designed for the press, was an important undertaking, which brought him to London in the spring of the year 1807. For some time after his arrival he enjoyed an unusual flow of health and spirits, but alas! his lamp of life was nearly exhausted, and its present brightness was but a deceitful gleam, that preceded its complete extinction.— He was apparently conscious of this himself, for he dropped many expressions, denoting that he did not expect long to live. When in conversation with a near relation of the late Mr. G. Wakefield, he lamented that he had never seen him after his confinement at Dorchester; “but,” says he, “I trust that we shall meet in another world; a world to which I find that I am fast approaching.” Soon after this he was attacked by what appeared to be a violent lumbago, which resisting every effort to remove, he was advised to keep his bed. This produced the desired effect in abating the pain, but at the same time his weakness kept increasing, whilst his appetite at length so totally failed him, that a little wine was the only sustenance he could be prevailed upon to take. Under these circumstances it was evident that the powers of life could not long be maintained: he soon after sank into

an apparent insensibility; that continued to the last. In this state, to the surprise of his medical attendants, he continued for some days; his pulsation strong and regular, and his breathings free. Early however, on the morning of the 21st of April 1807, it was discovered that *his pulse had ceased to beat, and that his last breath was expired*, though the actual termination of his life was so gentle, that it was not perceived.

The last act of his life, while a state of perfect consciousness remained, was an attempt to express himself in prayer; but the power of articulation was gone: nevertheless he was observed for some time after, with his hands folded upon his breast, to be absorbed in fervent devotion; thus dying, as he had lived, with a mind directed towards God and another world.

It would be unjust to close this account without subjoining the faithful and animated portrait of Mr. Walker, drawn by his friend the late Gilbert Wakefield; who in characterizing the various individuals that had presided over the Warrington institution at different times, passes the following eulogium upon his talents and his virtues:—"The last whom I shall mention of this laudable fraternity, but not the least in love, is the Rev. George Walker, dissenting minister at Nottingham, a fellow of the royal society. This gentleman, take him for all in all, possesses the greatest variety of knowledge with the most masculine understanding of any man I ever knew. He is in particular a mathematician of singular accomplishment. His treatise on the sphere long since published, and one upon the conic

sections, are the vouchers of my assertions. His two volumes of sermons are pregnant with the celestial fire of genius, and the vigour of noble sentiments. His *appeal to the people of England upon the subject of Test Laws* would not be much honoured by my testimony in its favour as the best pamphlet published on that occasion; were not this judgment coincident with the decision of the honourable Charles James Fox, who has declared to a friend of mine the same opinion of its excellence.

"But these qualifications, great and estimable as they are, constitute but a mean portion of his praise.—Art thou looking, reader! like Æsop in the fable, for a man? Dost thou want an intrepid spirit in the cause of truth, liberty, and virtue—an undeviating rectitude of action—a boundless hospitality—a mind infinitely superior to every sensation of malice and resentment—a breast susceptible of the truest friendship, and overflowing with the milk of human kindness—an ardour, an enthusiasm, in laudable pursuits, characteristic of magnanimity—an unwearied assiduity, even to his own hindrance, in public services? My experience can assure thee, that thy pursuit may cease, thy doubts be banished, and thy hope be realized: for this is the man.

"Who will now stay to compute the deduction, which must be made from this sum of excellence, for salaries of passion devoid of all malignity, and often excited by a keen indignation against vice; and for vehemence and pertinacity of disputation? I have made the computation, and it amounts to an infinitesimal of the lowest order."

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ANALYSIS OF 1810.

(CONTINUED FROM OUR LAST.)

Volunt in Speculum.

MOST sapient **WOSTERS**...now, I have you smack,
 Will you just please to turn a little back,
 And there, in page four hundred forty nine,
 You'll find about the twentieth line,
 You've printed *gers* for *gers*!
 Be...d...v...lling a most precious stanza,
 As ever eye of living man saw,
 And used...*gers* for lives!

Such terms might do, for fun or scoffing...
 For "*pious memories*,"...or "*weel tim'd daffing*,"
 Singing, of that sweet point, which call
 "The *wee-short OOR* ayont the *twaal*!"

Do...tell your imps, hereafter I implore'm,
 To use no more, such *lapses typorum*!
 In crabbed writings, always mind the sense,
 Consult the meaning, and on no pretence,
 Your judgment suffer, in a doubtful part,
 The author's obvious meaning to pervert.

If, once, for all, you kindly take this hint,
 All future errors..."aiblins"...you'll avoid,
 Leaving nor room, nor cause, for me to chide,
 And every item...most correctly print.
 Hoping you'll be good boys, I go no further,
 And now proceed to analyse in order.

But few events, worth noticing, appear
 In the first month of this portentous year,
 One, of the few, I cannot well pass over,
 Because from it some apt reflections spring,
 Th' annexation to *Westphalia's King*
 (OUR GRACIOUS SEVEREYAN'S-birthright) of Hanover.

Another event, which old Janu'ry brings,
 (Would they but heed it), awful hint to kings,
 A declaration on the twenty-fourth,
 By *Benaparte* to the *Dutch*...sets-forth...
 "From present aspect of the thing, his view is,
 They must give up their king, the gentle Louis!
 And must likewise, their welfare to advance,
 (*Nolens aut volens*), be annexed to France!"
 Thus kings are play'd, now go, now come,
 See how we manage things at home.

A few days after, (done no doubt to pester),
 Great *Percival*, & Co. the **LORD FORCHESTER**,
 Mov'd in the Commons for a committee,
 To try...the *Expedition to the Scheldt*,

OUR ROYAL REGENT's noble mind,
Despising reptiles of thy kind,
Will check thy mad career, thou'lt find,
and fend thy robe of sanctity!

Then Febru'ry with haggard aspect came,
Its gloomy features, heavy, cold, and chill,
Producing almost nothing, worthy name;
Save, that THE PRESS to muffle; many a bill
Was mov'd by *Yorke*...a senator of fame.
Who likewise mov'd, that strangers should withdraw,
And, while the *Walcheren* debate went on,
Should no admission be...and this strange law
Pass'd as it might...excluding every one.

Yorke likewise mov'd...(no doubt with good intent),
That every person should imprison'd be,
Who thought, or spoke, or wrote, or meant,
That, ought of wrong, was done by ministry,
Which pass'd, and JOHN OATHE JONES...this plight did dress!
With many more to loathsome dungeons went.

Well done good imps, now let's your cases search,
And see, what mighty things were done in MARCH;
Which frowning came, in stature stern and high,
Snuffing the air, with manners sharp, and dry.

Upon its records little doth appear,
Nay, almost nothing, to be noted here,
Save, what I, gossip-like, do now advise ye,
That BONT...casting off his former doxy,
Did, on th' twentieth day, express by proxy,
"At Vienna...the Austrian dame LOUISA;
'Twill be rare sport, if from this union springs
A new dynasty both of kings, and queens.

There was besides some house of commons work,
A Colonel *Lethbridge*...follow'd Colonel *Yorke*,
And up conjuring all the speaker's power,
Sent *vi* and ARMS...SIR FRANCIS to the tower.

APRIL, now smiling comes...but apropos...
Ere I go further, I must let you know,
That tho' I said SIR FRANCIS was, in March,
Sent to the tower, yet on minute research,
I find such declaration was amiss...
He was not sent until the ninth of this
Same present month, and that to send him then
Requir'd the aid of thirty thousand men,
With cannons loaded, prim'd, and matches lighted!
The guilty mind is always sore affrighted...

SIR FRANCIS...innocent, serene, and mild,
Quite undismay'd, amid this wild uproar!
Desir'd his man...to shut the outer door,
And, unconcern'd, sat PLAYING WITH HIS CHILD!
Thus, ohé "high minded MAN,"

* See Ode from *Alcumus*, in this Magazine.

Who knows his *rights*, and knowing dare maintain,
 Against the force of thousands, can
 Show Britons, that a tyrant's force is vain;
 And all his threats "pass like the idle wind,"
 Where virtue "arms in honesty the mind."

Of all th' occurrences in MAY,
 Little remains for us to say;
 Save that upon the ninth, the House
 With huge majority
 Rejected *maigre* all condition,
 The *Commons* *lively* petition.

Upon the *seventeenth*, we'll show,
 A county meeting in MAYO;
 Where, 'twas resolv'd, much to their credit,
 That *CATH'LIC* CLAIMS, (and they have said it.)
 A measure for our safety wanted,
 Should be at once...in *tele*...granted.

The *eighteenth*, after much debate,
 Their claims did meet a different fate,
 And were upon ST. STEPHEN'S floor,
 (Majority...*one hundred four*!)
 Thrown out, as had been long expected,
 And, spite of eloquence,* rejected.

Upon this month, to close the book,
 Last day thereof, a ROYAL DUKB...
 When sleeping sound in his own palace
 Was nearly murder'd by one Selis,
 A fellow either mad, or jealous.

(To be Continued.)

CALDERONE.

Edinburgh, 11th January, 1811.

REPLY OF THE PRINTERS TO CALDERONE.

WHEN Poets, just like Partridge's Sybils,
 On scraps of leaves their verses scribble,
 So small and light they seem inclin'd,
 Like hers, to flit before the wind;

When, with Parnassus the whole soul in,
 The eye, "while in fine frenzy rolling,"
 Disdains to leave its scenes inviting,
 To see what letters hands are writing;

When words appear their lines among,
 Which seem from Babel's tower sprung,
 Constructed by no one tongue's rules,
 But form'd from two...a sort of *trifle*;

When too they think it impudence,
 If of their lines we mend the sense;
 You should correct the press yourself,
 Or be no more a grumbling elf.

RALEIGH.

* See Grattan's speech on that occasion.

THE GHOST OF POMPEY.

FROM perfect and unclouded day,
From joys complete, without alloy,
And from a spring, without decay,

I come, by Cynthia's borrow'd beams,
To visit my Cornelia's dreams,
And give them still sublimer themes.

I am the man you lov'd before;
These streams have wash'd away my gore,
And POMPEY, now, shall bleed no more;

Nor shall my vengeance be withstood,
Nor unattended with a flood
Of Roman, and Egyptian blood.

CÆSAR himself it shall pursue;
His days shall troubled be, and few,
And he shall fall...by treason too.

He, by a justice all divine,
Shall fall a victim at my shrine,
As I was his...he shall be mine,

Thy stormy life regret no more,
For fate shall waft thee soon ashore,
And to thy POMPEY thee restore,

When guilty heads no crown shall wear,
For my CORNELIA drop a tear,
Nor CÆSAR be dictator there.

Tout Femme ressemble à la chaste Diane,
Approuvant en secret, dit on,
Ce qu'en public elle condamne;
À bizarre vertu sur le pauvre Acteon,
Se venge d'un regard profane,
Et vasudeire Endymion.

N.B. A translation not requested.

Ô divine *Amitié*! ce tems qui nous quitte,
Loin de briser tes nœuds, les aigre
chaque jour,

* These lines were written, many years ago, by a Mr. Ballantyne, of Glasgow, and are now remembered, not so much perhaps for their intrinsic merit, as by their having been linked to early and sweet associations. The ideas seem better than the execution, contrary to most of our poets, whose workmanship far exceeds the materials. It was set to the tune of Prior's, "In vain you tell your parting lover." It was sung, or rather recited, by the writer in a deep sepulchral voice. Several of the lines still come over the ear, in grand and sweeping tone; and the whole awakens in the mind classical recollections.

Vaux-tu done, à toi seule, avoir cet avantage?
Et ne diras-tu point ton secret à l'amour?

THO' pure my hands, and free from guilty stains,

Tho' undissolv'd each social tie remains;
Altho' no husband mourns his injur'd bed,
Nor pinea with grief the violated maid,
Altho' I pay each just return I owe,
And, sympathetic, feel another's woe,
With liberal hand, sustain the needy poor,
And age and sickness, bless my opening door;

Tho' each complaint, each bursting sigh, I hear,

Melt for each want, and dry every tear...
Yet, some dark tenet should I disbelieve,
Or dare to doubt, what I can ne'er conceive,

Still hell's broad paths, erroneous, I have trod,

A foe to virtue, and a foe to God.

S. H.

MRS. F.....'S DELIGHT.

COMPOSED BY HER HUSBAND, T. F.

SOME men they do delight in hounds,
And some in hawks take pleasure,
Some do rejoice in war and wounds,
And thereby gain great treasure.

Some men do love on sea to sail,
And some rejoice in riding,
But all their judgments do them fail,
Oh, no such thing as chiding!

When in the morn I open my eyes,
To entertain the day,
Before my husband e'en can rise,
I chide him...then I pray.

When I at table take my place,
Whatever be the meat,
I first do chide...and then say grace,
If so dispos'd to eat.

Too fat, too lean, too hot, too cold,
I ever do complain;
Too raw, too roast, too young, too old,
Faults I will find, or feign.

Let it be flesh, or fowl, or fish,
It never shall be said,
But I'll find fault with meat or dish,
With master, or with maid.

But when I go to bed at night,
I heartily do weep,

That I must part with my delight,
I cannot scold and sleep.

However this does mitigate,
And much abate my sorrow,
That tho' to-night it be too late,
I'll early scold to-morrow.

TO MISS, WITH SOME FLOWERS.

WE'RE dying lady, take us to thy breast,
Catch our last breath, and make our part-
ing blest,

Blest as expiring saints to whom 'tis given,
On earth to die, but to revive in heaven.

DIRECTIONS FOR A TEA-VASE.

(SAID TO BE WRITTEN BY DR. DARWIN.)

FRIEND Bolton, take these ingots fine,
From rich Potosi's sparkling mine;
With your nice art, a tea-vase mould,
Your art more valued than the gold;
And where proud Radbourne's turrets rise,
To bright Eliza send the prize.
I'll have no serpents round it hiss
The foaming wave, and seem to kiss.
No naiads weep no sphinxes stare,
No tail-hung dolphins high in air.
Let wreaths of myrtle round the rim,
And twisting rose-buds form the brim,
Each side let wood-bine stalks descend,
And form the handles as they bend.
While, at the foot, a Cupid stands,
And twines the wreaths with both his hands.
Perch'd, on the rising lid above,
Oh, place a love-lorn turtle-dove,
With hanging wings, and ruffled plume,
And gasping beak, and eye of gloom.
Last, let the swelling basis shine,
With silver white, and burnish fine,
Bright as the font whose banks beside,
Narcissus gaz'd, and lov'd, and died.

Vase! when Eliza deigns to pour,
With snow-white hand, the boiling show'r,
And sweetly talks, and smiles, and sips,
Thy fragrant stream, with ruby lips,
More charms thy polish'd front shall shew,
Than ever Titian's pencil drew,
More than his chisel soft unfurl'd,
Whose heaven-wrought statue charms the world.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,
I send you a bouquet of Sonnets for in-
sertion in your next month's Magazine.

This is a flower of *Pollux* poetry, which, in general, has not agreed well with this climate, but in some hands, by careful cultivation, has come to a considerable degree of perfection, of which the following are some of the best specimens I could find.

Yours, &c.

T.

FIRST.

LADY, to you a youth unknown to art,
(Who fondly from himself in thought
would fly.)

Devotes the faith, truth, spirit, con-
stancy,

And firm, yet feeling temper of his heart;
Prov'd strong by trial for life's arduous part.

When shakes the world, and thunders
roll'd on high,

All adamant, it dares the storm defy,
Erect, unconscious of the guilty start.

Not more above fear, envy, low desire,
And all the tenants of the vulgar breast,

Than prone to hail the heaven-resound-
ing lyre,

High worth, and genius of the muse pos-
sessed,

Unshaken and entire...and only sound,
Not proof against the shaft, when love di-
rects the wound.

MILTON.

SECOND.

Man lives...but to possess; and if unblest,
His sickly fancy languishes! expires!

But woman clasps chimera to her breast,
Small aliment her purer flame requires!
She, like the young chameleon, lives on
air,

Content, no grosser sustenance to gain,
Takes every tint from the lov'd object
near,

Clings to her griefs, and glories in her
pain.

Of poorest flow'rs she forms triumphant
wreaths,

Her world contracted to one little space;
Enough for her to breathe the air he breathes,

To steal a look, unnotic'd at his face!

By happy accident to touch his hand,
Bear on her heart a ringlet or a glove,
To sacrifice each wish to his command,
Live but in *them*, and only live to love.

MISS TRENDISH.

THIRD.

When forty winters shall besiege thy brow,
And dig deep trenches in thy beauties'
field,

Thy youth's proud livery, so gaz'd on now,
Will be a tatter'd weed of small worth
held.

Then, being ask'd, where all thy beautie
lies,

Where all the treasure of thy lusty days?
To say, within thy own deep-sunken eyes,
Were an all-eating shame, and thriftless
praise;

How much more praise deserv'd thy beauties
use,

If thou could'st answer... This fair child of
mine

Shall sum my count, and make my old
excuse.

Proving his beauty by succession thine.

This were to be new-made when thou art
old,

And see thy blood warm when thou feel'st
it cold.

SHAKESPEARE.

FOURTH.

The pallid tint of loveliness which threw

A tender cloud upon her smiling face,

Came to my heart with such an awful grace,

That in my looks, that heart to meet it flew,

Then how, in paradise, the blessed view

Each other I perceiv'd: e'en so took place,

The gentle sentiment none else could

trace,

Save me, whose gaze no other object knew,

The most angelic look that thou could'st

wear,

The mildest manners female love could

show

Compar'd with what I sing might soon

appear;

To earth she calmly bent her decent brow,

And silently she said, or seem'd to say,

"Who bears far hence my faithful friend

away?"

RETARCHE.

FIFTH.

Mary, I want a lyre with other strings;

Such aid from heaven, as some have feign'd

they drew!

An eloquence scarce given to mortals, new,

And undebas'd by praise of meaner things!

That e'er thro' age or woe I shed my wings,

I may record thy worth, with honour due,

In verse as musical, as thou art true,

Verse... that immortalizes whom it sings!

But thou hast little need: There is a

Book,

By Seraphs writ, with beams of heavenly

light,

In which the eyes of God not rarely look...

A chronicle of actions, just and bright!

There all thy deeds, my faithful Mary,
shine,

And since thou own'st that praise, I spare
these mine.

COURT.

This appears written "*con amore*," we may
add, "*divino*."

SIXTH.

Is it to love, to fix the tender gaze,

To hide the timid blush, and steal away,

To shun the busy world, and waste the
day,

In some rude mountain's solitary maze?

Is it to chaunt one name, in ceaseless lays,

To hear no words, that other tongues
can say,

To watch the pale moon's melancholy
ray,

To chide in fondness, and in folly praise?

Is it to pour th' involuntary sigh,

To dream of bliss, and wake, new pangs
to prove;

To talk in fancy with the speaking eye,

Then start with jealousy, and idly rove,

Is it to loath the light, and wish to die?

For these I feel, and feel that they are...

LOVE.

SIR B. SURGESS.

SEVENTH.

Thrice happy he, whom by some shady
grove,

Far from the clam'rous world doth live,
his own;

Tho' solitary, who is not alone;

But doth converse with that eternal love.

O how more sweet is bird's harmonious
moan,

Or the hoarse sobbings of the widowed
dove,

Than those smooth whisp'rings near a
prince's throne,

Which good make doubtful, do the ill ap-
prove.

O how more sweet is Zephyr's balmy
breath,

And sighs embalm'd which new-born flow-
ers unfold,

Than that applause vain honours doth
bequeath:

How sweet are streams, to poison drank in
gold;

The world is full of horrors, troubles,
sights,

Woods, harmless shades, have only true
delights.

DAUMOND, OF HAWTHORNDEN.

EIGHTH.

Why on a fatal day, O cruel gale,
Thy sportive spleen on Stella didst thou
vent,
When in a gig her rapid course she bent,
Charms so deceitful, why didst thou re-
veal?

Oh, had some balmly zephyrs gently
blown,
Had Stella sought some green sequester'd
shade,

Then her deception ne'er had been be-
tray'd,

And her false beauty I should ne'er have
known.

Her graceful mien no more I'll idolize.

Malignant gale...O be that day accurst,
When on her lovely form thy anger
burst,

And fleeting charms display'd before mine
eyes.

Curst be the time, when seated in her gig,
Thou, spite of fillets, blew away her
wigs.

X. Y. Z.

NINTH.

TO C. J. FOX,

27th Dec. 1796.

Chief hope of bleeding England... 'tis to
thee,

That all whose hearts with honest fer-
vour burn,

For their dear native country; all who
spurn

Corruptions gilded chains...and will be
free,

'To thee th' indignant eyes unceasing turn,
And trust that glorious moment soon to
see,

When the fair wreath by patriot virtue
won,

Shall bind thy temples...when this suffering
land,

Scarr'd with a thousand wounds, and half
undone,

Shall owe to thee, and thy illustrious
band,

That she, from Chatham's base degenerate
son,

Is timely rescu'd; ere his faithless hand
With ruffian dagger her best blood shall
drain,
While struggling Britons cure their fate
in vain.

T. C. D.

TO A RED-BREAST,

MY DAILY VISITOR.

Written in 1798, while in a state of conceal-
ment. The writer succeeded in getting out to
America afterwards.

HAIL, sweetest warbler, Red-breast,
dear!

That hover'st round my blest retreat,
Thou com'st my pensive thoughts to cheer,
And eke my rising hopes to greet:
To gild a wretch's lone abode,
Thou hail'st the morn with sportive glea,
And leav'st at eve a lighten'd load
On him, who mourns his liberty.

Ah! happy songster! Red-breast dear!
No tort'ring thoughts possess thy breast,
Thy eye need shed no selfish tear,
Nor fear-form'd visions break thy rest;
No fellow-warbler's ranc'rous soul
For thee doth earthly death decree,
Nor seeks by mean usurp'd controul,
To rob thee of thy liberty.

Why hither led by piercing eye,
With hardy-bill my window beat?
Why thus affright the fluttering fly
That hides from summer's ardent heat?
Does the base wish that bosom fill,
Its keen devourer soon to be?
Ah! no, thou seek'st as heaven's high will,
To grant it's birth-right, liberty.

Come then, soft warbler, Red-breast dear!
Why droop those sympathetic wings?
Why beats that heart with friendly fear?
Lo! hope full fledg'd, exulting springs,
Repeat! repeat thy wood-notes o'er,
Nor from this hallow'd mansion flee:
When tyrant's thunders cease to roar,
I'll share with thee, blest liberty.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS MANU-
FACTURES, &c.

Patent of Mr. Joseph Bramah, of
Pimlico, Middlesex, Engineer, for
a method of making pens.

Dated Sept. 1809.

THE first object of this patent
mention'd in the specification, is
to make a number of pens of a sin-
gle quill. Which is effected by

slitting the quill lengthways, by a proper instrument, into two or more equal parts, according to its thickness, cutting each part transversely into two, or more equal lengths, (according to the length of the barrel of the quill) and then making pens at each end of the pieces of quill so divided, which when wanted for use, are each to be attached to a small round stick tapered a little at the end, by a socket, or cylindrical ring, made either of the barrel of a quill, silver or other metal. Each of these pieces having two pens formed on it, one on each end, when one is worn by writing, the other may be brought into use by withdrawing the stick, turning the unused end downwards, and again attaching it to the stick by the socket.

The patentee states that in this manner, he can make of the smallest sized quill, eight complete pens, out of others twelve, and from that to thirty, (and from swans quills even more,) for small hand, drawing and other purposes, equal in durability and goodness to those made of whole quills.

It is obvious that as many classes of pens may be made in this manner, as a quill can be divided into equal parts. The first class of these in which a pen is made at each end of the barrel of a quill cut off from its top, are called by the patentee double compound pens; and the second class, formed of quills slit in two lengthways, are called treble compound pens.

The patentee next describes a new instrument for making pens expeditiously, of which the cutting part is formed so as to resemble what is called a parting tool for carving and engraving wood, with a fine sharp edge projecting in the middle of its angle internally to form the slit of the pen.

This cutting part is formed of two pieces of steel, of three eighths of an inch scantling, by two eighths, with a thin piece of steel, about the thickness of a watch spring, between them to form the slit; the two side pieces, are ground so at their ends, that their edges form an angle, such as it desired for the nib of the pen, and the slitting part in the middle has a quite straight edge. These are fixed together in a frame by a screw, so managed as to either fasten them or release them occasionally, and the whole is connected to the slider of a small fly-press, such as is commonly used for cutting and stamping: and then beneath the cutting point of the instrument, a piece of hard wood or metal is placed, either convex or concave, to receive the half or the segment of a quill, either with the concave or convex side uppermost, as may be found best. This bed for receiving the quill to be cut into a pen, is countershaped exactly to correspond with the end of the cutting instrument, by a cutting stroke, made by the instrument itself, so that there cannot be any error in their contact when in use, which will prevent a ragged cut from being made upon the quill.

This bed is held in its place by being driven tight into a horizontal groove in the bed of the cutting press, so that when the contact with the cutting tool shall become imperfect by use, a small blow with a hammer, or the operation of a regulating screw, shall amend this defect. And by this means, added to the ready manner in which the pieces of steel, that form the cutter, may be taken out of the frame and sharpened, the engine can be continually kept in a state of perfection with little trouble.

The pens are not to be nibbed by the machine, but when the parts

of the divided quills are cut into lengths, they are to be cut both square and clean enough to answer for the point; by which means, in the operation of forming the pen, by forcing the quill a little more or less near the junction of the triangular mouth of the cutters, the width of the pens point will be increased or diminished in its dimensions; so that by a nice adjustment in this respect, pens calculated for every kind of hand may be cut with strict accuracy.

The last object of the patent is to secure the right of different fountain-pens, which may be combined with the pens already described. The first mentioned of these is formed of a hollow tube of silver, or other metal, closed at both ends, and made so thin as to be readily compressed, by a small pressure between the finger and thumb, out of a cylindrical form; by which pressure the internal space of the tube being lessened, the ink which it contains will be compelled to ooze out of a small capillary opening made at its lower extremity for this purpose. Pens prepared as above described, are fastened to these tubes by sockets, in the same manner as to the sticks before mentioned. The lower ends of these tubes are made tapering, to admit the pens to be fastened on them better, and the upper ends are made to open, in order to admit the ink; while this is pouring in, the capillary opening at the bottom must be stopped; and when the tube is full, the upper end must be closed air-tight with a cork or cap, which will prevent any ink running out into the pen, more than is directed by the pressure of the thumb, when it is placed in a fit position for writing.

Another kind of ink fountains, the patentee mentions may be made of inflexible metal tubes, furnished

with small sliding pistons, like those of forcing pumps, by impelling which downwards, by the hand or a screw, the ink may be made to pass into the pen.

A fountain pen, of the same nature as that first described, the patentee mentions may be made of a common goose-quill, made sufficiently soft by scraping to admit of compression, if it is not so naturally; a small stopper is made to fit into the lower end of this quill, with a minute groove in its upper part, next the back of the pen, not larger than what the smallest pin would occupy, so as to cause the least channel possible for the conveyance of the ink to the pen; this quill may be either formed into a pen at its end, or have one of the above described pens attached to it by a socket; the ink is to be poured in at its lower end, and, when the stopper is put into its place, it is ready for use. Care must be taken that the quill is air tight, or made so; as otherwise the ink would run out. When the ink ceases to flow, from the air becoming too much rarified above the ink, in this fountain pen, or the first described, by turning the pen with the point upwards, sufficient air will be drawn into the cavity through the capillary aperture, to restore the balance with the outward air, and make the ink flow freely again.

Lastly the patentee proposes, that the pens of several writing at one desk, may be supplied from a vessel on a shelf over head, from which small pipes shall pass, each, furnished with a cock, to the station of each writer, so that he can fill his fountain pen without moving from his seat: and as a farther improvement, states, that small flexible tubes may be made to pass from these pipes to the fountain pens in the writer's hands, so that they shall always be supplied with ink, without any further

care than opening and shutting the cocks. The lower ends of these flexible tubes are to be fastened to the tops of the hollow handles of the pens, by hollow screws, like that of the brass nozzle of a fire-engine.

In some cases, instead of the methods above described for letting down the ink from the hollow handle into the pen, the patentee prefers to make a small perforation, for the admission of air, in the upper extremity of the handle; which aperture is stopped or opened by a valve or slide; when it is open the ink will descend, and charge the pen at pleasure, but when stopped, its farther flowing will be prevented.

Observations.—The method of forming many pens of one quill thus brought into notice by its ingenious author, (to whom the public are indebted for many useful discoveries, and several beneficial applications of former inventions,) is of more importance than might at first appear; for it evidently will form a material addition to the plan for diminishing the expences of educating poor children, by which Dr. Bell and Mr. Lancaster have done themselves so much credit; and which many benevolent men of judgment and experience have most sanguine hopes, will produce a most material amelioration in the morals, prudence, conduct, and consequent happiness of the labouring part of society; if carried forward to the extent, which the interest they excite so justly promises. The value of this invention for this purpose may perhaps appear more clearly, by stating that the expences of educating children is reduced by the methods mentioned, to so small a sum annually for each, that the saving produced in a few hundreds of quills by adopting Mr. Bramah's plan, will probably be sufficient to pay for the instruction of a child additional.

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Another saving advantageous to the same object, will arise from the economising the time of masters, now spent in making pens, by the use of the machine for this purpose herein described. Mr. Lancaster, in his lectures on his method of teaching, has always stated a saving in this respect to be an object of considerable consequence, and recommended for this use an instrument very inferior in accuracy and facility of reparation, to the above, but which was the best before this was contrived.

It is obvious however, that this machine may be much simplified, as there can be no need of the force of a screw-press, to cut part of a quill. A small lever to press down the sliding cutter, and a spring to raise it again, would be all that would be necessary; the first more to make the motion steady than for the sake of gaining power, and the latter for convenience.

In what the patentee states, of forming the divided pieces of a quill into pens at both ends, he does not seem aware that nearly one third of the upper part of most quills is unfit for this purpose, on account of its splitting with serrated edges, commonly called *cat's teeth*; but this, though it forms some deduction, does not materially diminish the value of the invention.

Among the fountain pens the patentee mentions one (formed by a tube and sliding piston) as his invention, which has long been before the public as the contrivance of Mr. David Leroy, a French gentleman; and of which an account was given in the *Athenæum* for December 1807, translated from Sonini's *Encyclopédie des Arts*. But it is probable that Mr. Bramah never heard of this; for it can scarcely be thought that a plagiarism so easily detected in such an unimportant matter,

would have been risked by him intentionally.

The last plan proposed by the patentee for supplying pens with ink, is liable to obvious objections; for it would both greatly endanger the blotting and defacing account-books and other papers of importance, which might lie on the desks, in case of the breaking any of the metal pipes, or mismanaging the cocks; and would add so much resistance to the motion of the pen, by the weight of the flexible tube, as in all probability would tire the hand with a much less portion of writing than would be the case with pens not thus encumbered.

Making the fountain pen act by compression, seems a valuable improvement, and promises to come into such general use as, added to the sale of the machines for making pens, to recompense the patentee for his trouble and expense; means will probably be soon devised to regulate the expansion of the air from an encrease of temperature, which when much air is in the tube, would cause the ink to flow out, and then the only remaining inconvenience to which this pen is liable will be removed.

Patent of Mr. David Meade Randolph, of Golden-square, Middlesex, for a method of manufacturing boots, shoes, and other articles, with a substitute for thread or yarn.

Dated Feb 1809.

• The substitute for yarn in making boots and shoes, consist of small brads, sprigs, or tacks, made of copper, iron or other proper metals, applied in forming the soles and heels alone, principally by the use of a last, constructed with an iron sole about the thickness of common sole leather. This iron sole has three holes made through it, about an inch in diameter, one near the

toe, another about half-way between the toe and the heel, and a third in the heel; which holes are filled up level with wooden plugs, and are made for the purpose of fastening the boot or shoe to the last, in the usual manner while making. When the upper-leather and inner-sole are placed on a last of this description, the outer-sole is nailed to the inner-sole by brads of such a length, as will allow them to perforate the inner sole, with which the metal sole of the last being in close contact, it turns and clinches them so as to present a smooth surface inside; and the brads thus connect the two soles so as to serve instead of stitching or sewing them. This new method is not limited to the edge or margin of the sole, but can be also applied to any intermediate space, where strength and durability may be deemed requisite.

Another application of the same principle, with some addition, is mentioned by the patentee at the end of the specification, in the following words. I also apply as a substitute for yarn, &c. in the fabrication of braces, traces, or other articles to which the same can be usefully applied, and in place of stitching, wires made of iron, brass, or copper, or other fit metal. These wires I use lengthways, by stretching them the whole length of the trace or brace; and they are fastened at each end round small metal cylinders, inclosed between plates of leather, connected, by means of the substitute mentioned.

Some account of experiments on different kinds of charcoal, for improving the manufacture of gunpowder and of the slowness of combustion of chestnut wood, extracted from a paper by M. Proust.

Journal de Physique

Five parts of pulverised and very dry salt-peter were put into a large bronze mortar, along with one part of the charcoal intended to be examined; a few drops of water were then sprinkled on it, and the mixture was triturated with an iron pestle for half an hour. Water was then added, but only a little at a time, so as to keep the mixture sufficiently moist to prevent it from flying about: this labour was continued for six hours, and when the mixture appeared to be as dry as it could be made by the action of the pestle, the powder was withdrawn, wrapped up in a double fold of paper, and placed on a drying stove. When dry it was beaten in the mortar for about half an hour, in order to obtain an impalpable powder, which was then put in a bottle and secured by a cork.

When the several mixtures were prepared, they were exposed a second time to the stove, in order to have them all of the same degree of dryness; from one to two ounces only of each mixture was prepared.

Twenty-two grains of each mixture was put into a brass tube, half a line thick, three lines in diameter, and two inches and a half or more in length, closed at one end, soldered without leaving any lumps inside, and perfectly equal in the caliber. Several tubes of this kind were prepared, differing only in length, and sized from two and a half to three inches in length, increasing only a line in each size. The tubes were charged with a quill cut sloping, and the mixture was rammed down with a brass rod of the same diameter as the tube, and about five inches long, the upper end of which

was formed into a ring; when the 72 grains were rammed in, each tube was cut off so as to leave a line above the charge; it was then fixed in a round of cork half an inch thick, and about two inches in diameter, with its upper edge only two or three lines above the surface of the cork; after this the cork and tube were set to float in a drinking glass filled with water: in order to keep the tube cool, whose heat was however sufficient to make the water hiss that touched it, and to detach bubbles from it.

A pendulum that vibrated seconds, hung from a quadrant, with divisions like those of Mr. Pierre Leroy, was got ready to note the time of the combustion; and a priming of the best gunpowder, finely pulverised, being put at the top of the mixture in the tube, where a space of a line in depth, was left; it was fired by the point of a match, at the instant when the ball of the pendulum was put in motion.

As there was a remarkable coincidence between the duration of the combustion, and the weight of the residuum left in the tube, its weight was carefully noted, and was always less as the combustion was most rapid, and the force of the mixture was greater also in the same proportion, which illustrates the fact frequently observed by sportsmen, that the longer time gunpowder takes in consuming on a piece of paper, so much is it weaker, and so much more does it foul their guns.

The following table shows the time of the combustion of various species of charcoal, managed as recited, and the weight of the residuum left in the tubes after combustion.

TABLE OF THOSE KINDS OF CHARCOAL THE MIXTURE OF WHICH BURNED
IN THE TUBES.

<i>Saltpetre, 60 grains. Charcoal, 12 grains.</i>	<i>Time of burning. Seconds.</i>	<i>Weight of Residuum, Grains.</i>
1.....Charcoal of Sugar.....	70.....	48
2.....of fossil coal, or coak.....	50.....	45
3.....of Indian corn or maize.....	55.....	48
4.....of Alcohol, by three parts of sulphuric acid, and heated to redness.....	36.....	44
5.....of Walnut-tree wood.....	29.....	33
6.....of Chestnut wood.....	16.....	36
7.....of the stalks of maize.....	25.....	38
8.....of the stalks of pimento.....	25.....	36
9.....of hazel wood.....	23.....	20
10.....of spindle-tree wood.....	21.....	27
11.....of hourdcing.....	20.....	24
12.....of fir, or deal.....	17.....	80
13.....of the stalks of chick-peas.....	13.....	21
14.....of vine twigs.....	12.....	20
15.....of hemp stalks peeled.....	10.....	12
16.....of the stalks of asphodel lillies.....	10.....	12

MIXTURES WHICH WOULD NOT BURN IN THE TUBES.

Charcoal of starch	Charcoal of indigo
..... of wheat	..... of wheat gluten
..... of rice	..... of glue
..... of nutgalls	..... of white of egg
..... of guaiacum	..... of human blood
..... of heath	..... of tanned leather,

Among the remarks made by Mr. Propst on these experiments, the following on chestnut timber seem the most deserving of our notice.

The Chestnut tree, whose charcoal requires 26 seconds to be consumed, or rather the wood of it, has received from nature a peculiar quality, which renders it very valuable in those countries where it is plentiful, and which does not seem to be so generally known as it ought to be.

In the Asturias a province as rich, by the fruitfulness of its soil, as it is enchanting, by its picturesque views, which are worthy the pencil of Casas, the chestnut is sometimes used for fuel. If a brand of it is taken from the fire, it is seen not without some surprise, that it is extinguished as rapidly in the

open air as if it was plunged into carbonic acid gas; this happens so quickly that a pipe cannot be lighted by it. It is probably this difficult combustibility that occasions its being preferred for floors (in the Asturias) which are there, scarcely ever tiled. In all the houses the floors are brought so near the fire place, that one is astonished at the security of the inhabitants; but one soon becomes as indifferent as they are in this respect, when it is observed, that if any burning wood happens to fall on the floor, there is no more danger than if it fell upon tiles. A plank will at the utmost be scorched, but there is no risk, as with other kinds of timber, of the house being set on fire.

It is also from the nature of chestnut charcoal, that this kind of fuel

is preferred, in forges. Take the hands from the bellows, and it begins to go out; its consumption is thus husbanded, while the workman is at the anvil.

Mr. Proust also observes, that heath-charcoal, or that of its roots has the same property, and ceases to burn as soon as the bellows ceases to blow.

Proceeding upon the supposition that azote, which is contained in so many kinds of charcoal, might cause that incumbrance, that characterises some of them; Mr. Proust treated several of them with potash, to observe what effect this would have upon their combustibility, in case that principle should not be found in them.

Chesnut-wood charcoal, treated first with potash and then with a dilute acid, in order to cleanse it from a quantity of soluble ashes, became more combustible than before; for instead of requiring twenty-six seconds, it took no more than sixteen to detonate with five parts of saltpetre. No traces of prussic acid could be discovered in the ley.

Charcoal of heath also became improved by this mode of treatment.

Indigo charcoal yielded a considerable quantity of prussiate: the residuum was not observed to have required an increase of combustibility.

Two successive operations upon coal formed from some excellent coal, dug at Villa nueva del Rio, near Seville, caused a diminution of its combustibility. The first ley contained prussiate.

Some fine anthracite, which burned with great difficulty without any flame or odorous vapour, yielded evident traces of prussic acid. It is probable therefore that it derived its origin from fossil coal. This anthracite was found very near the monastery of Harbas, at a little distance

from the pass which leads to Soledad through the beautiful valley of Campanas.

Cases illustrating the effects of Oil of Turpentine in the expelling the tape worm, by John Coakly Lettsom, M.D. and president of the Medical Society.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi; 307.

Dr. Lettsom was consulted in Sep. 1809, by a gentleman 35 years of age on account of an uneasiness in the abdomen, with dyspepsia, which were supposed to originate from tœnia, or tape worm, as small portions of it had occasionally been evacuated downwards.

The doctor prescribed a course of male fern, with occasional cathartics, as recommended by madame Nonnet. In this plan the gentleman persevered for the space of three months; in which period he discharged, at two different times, about eight yards of the tœnia. In April, 1810, he again applied to the doctor, in consequence of labouring under his former complaints; adding, that he imagined, from the long use of the plant recommended, his pains, and particularly the dyspepsia and general debility, had increased. The doctor then ordered the *oleum terebinthinæ rectificatum*, in a dose of nine drachms by weight, and after it a little honey to remove the heat and unpleasant taste it might occasion. In a week after taking the oil, the patient informed the doctor, that in a few hours after taking this dose, more than four yards of the tœnia were discharged, at the second motion, and also a quantity of matter, resembling the substance of the skins of the tœnia. The medicine produced little or no pain, and at least much less than the purgative he had taken after the use of the male fern. The subsequent

motions contained no tœnia, nor any of the substance before mentioned. He experienced no pain or heat in the urinary passages, though the urine continued to impart a scent of turpentine for three or four days. The patient has since remained in perfect health, enjoying a degree of comfort, to which he had been a stranger for the preceding half year. He also said that the medicine, while swallowing, occasioned less heat than the same quantity of brandy, or other spirit; and that the taste, and heat, which it caused, were soon removed by the honey.

From this, and other instances, the doctor is induced to conclude, that the best method of taking the oil, is without any admixture: that the dose of nine drachms occasions very little inconvenience; and that this quantity, perhaps owing to its quick purgative effect, excites no inflammation in the urinary passages, although it imparts its peculiar smell to the urine.

The doctor prefers giving the medicine uncombined, in which state it is not attended with any particular inconvenience; and states, that there is no certain method of ascertaining the presence of the tœnia but by actual discharge of portions of the worm itself, as the pains and heaviness of the abdomen, the dyspepsia and emaciation which the worm occasions, may also be produced by other causes.

In the number of the Philosophical Magazine, which follows that from which the foregoing account is extracted, several other cases are related, where the oil of turpentine has been administered for worms; in most of which it succeeded so well, as to leave little doubt of its being very superior to most medicines hitherto used for the same purpose.

De Luc's electric column.

The small bells connected with the electric column invented by Mr. De Luc, which have been frequently before noticed in this publication, were perceived to cease ringing for about ten minutes on the 4th of September; then (the apparatus remaining untouched,) to begin again to ring by intervals, stopping perhaps half a second or more, at a time: they stopped for several days after this, and began again, and at other times stopped for hours: On the 18th of November, they were removed from the column, not having been heard that morning.

On purifying olive oil for the pivots of chronometers, by M. Lz. Walker.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi, 372.

Nothing has been found to decrease the friction in time-keepers so well as oil. But it has long been known, that its use in marine chronometers is attended with very bad consequences; for it gradually loses its fluidity during a long voyage, and adheres to the machine; by which all regularity in its performance is prevented. These considerations led Mr. Walker in 1799, to make experiments of methods to improve the quality of oil for this purpose; in which he succeeded so as to separate a thick mucilaginous matter from even the best oil, which mucilage was opaque and whitish, heavier than oil, but lighter than water. The oil from which the mucilage has been taken is exceedingly transparent in a fluid state, but when frozen appears much whiter than common oil exposed to the same degree of cold.

About ten years ago Mr. Walker sent some of this oil to Mr. Barraud, requesting him to make trial of it, and in March 1802, Mr. B. informed him "that he had just

received a chronometer in which the prepared oil had been used; which having performed a voyage of 16 months to and from India, was then vibrating as freely as at first, and keeping the rate it went out with to a fraction of a second."

In a letter to Mr. Walker, inserted at large in the original paper, Mr. Barraud farther states, "that for upwards of ten years he had constantly used the prepared oil for his chronometers, and in their return from long voyages always found the oil in good condition, and much better than any he had been able to procure before; Mr. Barraud also induced Mr. Brockbank to try it, who very gratefully acknowledged the advantage he had derived from its use; having found Mr. Walker's oil, on the return of his chronometers from India, far superior in quality to any he had before been able to procure."

The following is Mr. Walker's directions for preparing the pure oil, above mentioned.

"Put a quantity of the best olive oil into a phial, with two or three times as much water, so that the phial may be about half full; shake the phial briskly for a little time, turn the cork downwards, and let most part of the water flow out between the side of the cork and the neck of the phial. Thus the oil must be washed five or six times. After the last quantity of water has been poured out, what remains is a mixture of water, oil, and mucilage.—To separate these from each other put the phial into hot water for three

or four minutes, and most part of the water will fall to the bottom, which must be drawn off as before.

The oil must then be poured into a smaller phial, which being nearly full, must be well corked, set in a cool place, and be suffered to stand undisturbed for three or four months, or until all the water shall have subsided, with the mucilage on the top of it, and the oil perfectly transparent swimming upon the top of the mucilage. When time has thus completed the operation, the pure oil must be poured off into very small phials, and kept in a cool place, well corked to preserve it from the air.

~~Attention~~

Improvement in writing and printing numbers, consisting of many digits, by A. Reintulp.

Phil. Mag. xxxv, 307.

When a number such as 69,470,600,078,406,300,097, presents itself, though pointed in periods of three figures, the manner of expressing it in words does not immediately occur to the mind. The mode which Mr. Reintulp proposes as an improvement is, besides pointing it in periods of three figures, to place one accent over the seventh figure, or millions; two accents over the 13th figure, or billions; and so on, increasing the accents at every myriad,

thus—69,470,600,078,406,300,097, by which we can perceive at once, that the two first figures denote trillions, without the usual mode of reckoning according to the Numeration table.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ARCHITECTURE.

Nicholson's Principles of Architecture; containing its fundamental rules, in Geometry, Arithmetic, and Mensuration, with 218 plates, 2d. edition, 3s. 3d.

ASTRONOMY.

An Appendix to the Third Edition of Tables requisite to be used with the Nautical Ephemeris; being new Tables of Na-

tural Sines, Versed Sines, and Logarithms of Numbers, from 1 to 100,000.—2s.

CHEMISTRY.

A Dictionary of Chemistry and Mineralogy, with various useful Tables, by A. and C. R. Aikin, 3l. 13s. 6d.

ETYMOLOGY.

A Treatise on the Etymology and Syntax of the English Language; by the Rev. Alexander Crombie, L.L.D. 2d ed. 8s.

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Greek Idioms, exhibited in Select Passages from the best Authors, with English Notes; by the Rev. William Neilson, D.D. 5s.

Greek Exercises, after the manner of Clarke's Latin Exercises, 5s. or with the Key, 8s.

A Grammar of the Greek Language, in English and Greek; by John Jones, 6s.

Decii Junii Juvenalis, et Auli Persii Flacci Satiræ, quas Interpretatione et Notis illustravit Ludovicus Præteus, 9s.

HISTORY.

Rollin's Ancient History of the Egyptians, Carthaginians Assyrians, Babylonians, Medes and Persians, and Grecians, a new edition, 2l. 2s.

The History of Sumatra, with a description of its Natural Productions, &c. by Wm. Marsden, F.R.S. 3l. 13s. 6d.

MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Remarks on the Nomenclature of the New London Pharmacopœia; by John Bostock, M.D. 2s. 6d.

A Dissertation on the Introversion of the Womb, (with some observations on Uterine Gestation,) by Samuel Merriam, M.D. 3s.

A Treatise on the Structure and Diseases of the Liver; by William Saunders, M.D. F.R.S.

The Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, No. 25. 3s.

Additional Cases; with farther Directions to the Faculty, relating to the Use of the Humulus or Stop in Gout and Rheumatic Affections; by A. Freake, apothecary, 1s. 6d.

A Statement of the Case of James Tilley Matthews, fourteen years in Bethlem hospital, for madness, by George Birkbeck, M.D.

NOVELS, ROMANCES, TALES.

Artless Tales; by Mrs. Ives Hurry, 15s.

The Arabian Nights Entertainments, revised and corrected from the Arabic,

with a Selection of New Tales, now first translated from the Arabic originals, by Jonathan Scott, 1l. 16s. or with plates 3l. 13s. 6d.

Pity's Gift; a collection of Interesting Tales, to excite the Compassion of Youth for the animal creation.

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The Mother, a Poem, in five Books; by Mrs. West, 7s.

POETICS.

The Regency Question, being a Republication of Papers written during his Majesty's illness in 1788, with a new Preface; by Dennis O'Bryen, esq.

A complete Report of the Speeches of Right Hon. Charles James Fox, in the House of Commons, from 1768 to 1806.

A View of the State of the Nation, and of the Measures for the last five Years, suggested by Earl Grey's Speech in the House of Lords, on June 13th 1810; by Thomas Peregrine Courtenay, esq.

The Speech of Mr. Leach, in the House of Commons, December 31, on the restrictions of the Regent.

RELIGION.

Sermons on several Subjects, by the late Rev. William Paley, 10s. 6d.

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A Picturesque Voyage to India; by the way of China, with 50 Engravings, by Thomas Daniel, R.A. and William Daniel, A.R.A. £3. 13s. 6d.

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MISCELLANEA.

The Scourge or Monthly Expositor of Literary, Dramatic, Medical, Political, Mercantile, and Religious imposture, No. 1. 2s. 6d.

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work inciting to benevolence, the profits of which are to be employed in promoting plans for educating the poor, 2s. 6d.

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A Manual of Essays, Selected from various Authors, including Butler, Lord Clarendon, Sir William Temple, Dryden, Jer Collier, Locke, Atterbury, and Pope, 9s.

The Edinburgh Review, No. 33, 6s.

The Farmer's Magazine, No. 44, 3s.

MISCELLANEA.

A Letter on the real causes of the Scarcity and high price of Bullion; by Charles Lyne, esq. 2s.

Bullion Report confuted, in considerations on Commerce, Bullion, and Coin; by George Chalmers, esq. F.R.S. S.A. 6s. 5d.

Hints from Holland; or Gold as dear as Dutch Currency as in Bank-Notes; by A. W. Rutherford, esq.

A Literary Diary or improved Common Place Book, with an Index formed in some respect, on the plan of Mr. Locke, 16s.

An Ethical Treatise on the Passions; by T. Cogan, M.D. 7s. 6d.

A Letter to Sir John Sinclair, on his

remarks on Mr. Huskinson's Pamphlet, in which the Bullion Committee is vindicated, 1s. 6d.

The Antiquities of England and Wales, embellished with 699 plates; by Francis Grose, £21.

Lavater's Essays on Physiognomy, Translated by Henry Hunter, D.D. with 800 Engravings, £31. 10s.

Catalogue general Methodique des livres Francois, Portugais, &c. Qui se trouvent Chez B. Dubau and co. Soho-square: 3s.

The Poetical Class Book, with Reading Lessons for every day in the year; by W. F. Mylius, 5s.

Camden's Britannia, Translated from the Edition published by the Author in 1607, with 120 Plates, 4 vols. folio, £16. 16s.

An Authentic Description of the Kennet and Avon Canal, with Observations on the present state of the Canals in the Southern parts of England and Wales.

A Chart of the Coast of China, from Canton and Japan; by James Burney, esq. 7s.

Essays on the Nature and Principles of Taste; by Archibald Allison, L.L.B.

The Union Dictionary, containing all that is useful in Johnson's, Sheridan's and Walker's Dictionaries, 10s. 6d.

An Introduction to Merchants' Accounts, or Commercial Book-keeping; by W. Tate, 5s.

The new Chronology, an Authentic Register of Events from the earliest period to the present times, 5s. 6d.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

NAPOLEON has expressed his design of forming an internal communication by a canal between France and the Baltic, and intimated his intention to the British government. We think this a subject worthy of reflection. We have always

*To the list of his titles, he has just added a new one, "Emperor of France, Protector of the Confederation of the Rhine, King of Italy, &c. and Dealer in Tobacco." Let him beware of the eventual danger which may result to her revenue from this *Tobacco*. Britain is a shop that depends upon customers. The war against our trade, and the non-consumption of the commodity are what she ought most to fear.

thought that the ambition of the emperor of France has been, of late, turned to the works of peace. War-like ambition, with him, is consummated. He has established his character as the first warrior of this or perhaps any other age. What remains? That, without which all his victories will be of little account in the estimation of posterity, and are, it is likely, as little in his own—the triumphs and trophies of peace. The world is yet to be astonished by more uncommon deeds than the extraordinary issue of some great battles. Here, indeed, a mere military man may place the summit of human excel-

lence, and it is probable that during his campaigns in Italy, the fortunate decision of the battles of Millesimo, or of Lodi, was the supreme ambition of Bonaparte; but he moves now in a higher and more comprehensive sphere, and he must now dedicate great genius, unexampled activity, and extraordinary power, to grander displays of these eminent qualities, than could be manifested in the carnage of a campaign. Marengo, Austerlitz, and Jena, and numerous other battles which we wish not to enumerate, are but the rough, unhewn blocks, cemented indeed with blood, and hid in the earth, yet affording support to the solid fabric of the temple of peace. It may perhaps be necessary, as it were, to conquer the reform and melioration of mankind, and a thousand grand schemes for the improvement of the world, and the furtherance of human happiness, which appear as visionary as the ideas of Columbus did to the grandees of Spain, may ripen into act when genius, and ambition are joined to unprecedented power. The impracticable, or at least what was always supposed as such, will be compassed by the man, whoever he may be, that can wield the mighty mass of human labour to grand uses, and employ the all-contriving head to direct the all-performing hand.

Alexander the great, was not greatest at the battle of Arbela, nor in the passage of the Granicus, nor in storming the gates of Oxydrace. His greatness consisted in having a mind bent upon grand schemes to which his victories were the preliminary means. War was not his ultimate object; it was only an instrument for the attainment of philanthropic purpose. For this, was Alexandria founded; for this, Nearchus was directed to explore the Indus; for this was India itself in-

vaded. He longed, with the aspirations of glorious ambition, for that *pacific power* which could turn human intelligence in the most advantageous direction for human happiness, and make, what Bacon has called, that happy marriage between the mind of man, and the nature of things. When he became master of the Persian empire, he easily perceived that to render his authority permanent and secure, it must be established in the affections of the nations which he had subdued, and that in order to acquire this advantage, all distinctions between the victors and the vanquished must be abolished. Liberal as this plan of policy was, nothing could be more repugnant to the prejudices of his countrymen. Even Aristotle advised Alexander to govern the Greeks like subjects, but those who were usually named *barbarians*, as *slaves*, as creatures of an inferior species. But, such were not the ideas of his magnanimous master, who, however, to the misfortune of the human race died at the age of 33; and it is not without sensibility, we yet read the circumstantial diary which Appian gives of the last days of this truly great man, from which we shall only extract the conclusion: "27th day. The fever had made rapid progress, and continued during the day, without abatement." "28th day. The soldiers now clamorously demanded to be admitted, wishing to see their sovereign once more, if he were alive; and suspecting that he was dead, and his death concealed. They were suffered, therefore, to pass through the tent, in single file, without arms, and the king raised his head with difficulty, holding out his hand to them, but could not speak!" what a noble subject for a historical picture! The veteran soldiers in march through the royal tent, thrown open for their reception; each cast-

ing, as he passed, a last despairing look upon his king and general, who, struggling with death, strives to recognize his faithful companions, and stretches towards them that hand, with which he had been so often accustomed to point out the road to victory. Ptolemy, Antigonus, Seleucus, and the rest of his generals, standing in fearful prescience of the evils consequent upon his dissolution, and Aristotle himself finding philosophy a vain succour for the loss of his monarch, his pupil, and his friend.

It *may* happen that Napoleon is sincere in his expressed desire for peace; that, after his prototype Alexander, he *may* be desirous of accomplishing grand schemes for the improvement of his territories, and the convenience of his people, which, certainly, no other power would have the malignancy, if they had the opportunity to obstruct. People are apt to ask, how are the armies of France to find employment, except by being constantly engaged in war. What? Must the redundant population of countries be always gathered in a great plain for the purpose of destroying each other? Are there no canals to be cut, no harbours to be enlarged, no wastes to be reclaimed, isthmuses to be divided, no mountains to be levelled, no vallies to be filled up, no cities to be built or beautified? This earth to genius and industry is as clay in the hands of the potter. In short, we believe that Bonaparte is, and that the British government ought to be desirous of peace. If he makes the proposition, as probably he soon will, may it be accepted of in the spirit of peace, and let men of every country make the most of the earth and the ocean.

Many of the state papers issued by the French government indi-

cate that peace is their present object, and we are told that Bonaparte contemplated the late negotiation for establishing a cartel for exchange of prisoners, unhappily for the interests of humanity now broken off, as a mean to assist to bring about a general pacification. We are also informed, that Holland was not annexed to France, before an offer was made to the British government, to relax in the system of claiming the dominion of the sea as the price of the independence of Holland. But though Bonaparte is desirous of peace, he does not relax in his schemes of annoyance, and he increases his line of coast by the incorporation of Holland, and the Hansetowns, when his terms are rejected. He has likewise introduced his plan of naval conscription, a plan as contrary to justice as the impressing of seamen, but probably for his views under the present circumstances of the continent, more efficacious. The bad policy of the British government has essentially contributed to make France a great military nation. A continuance of a like ill fated system will most probably in the course of years make the French power great by sea, and consummate the system of blunders. All eyes are turned with anxious expectation to the measures of the regent, and time has yet to unfold whether with a change of men, there will be a radical change of measures.

Among the documents will be found the conclusion of the report on American manufactures. The detail of their progress may be contemplated without the mean jealousies, which have too long been the distinguishing characteristic of the British nation, whose views were almost exclusively bounded by the illiberal notion of commercial monopoly. In addition to

the clamour of merchants, we have latterly had the equally interested cry of civilians, and the judges and officers of prize courts, who are inordinately enriched by increasing the flames of war. Hence originated the orders in council, so pernicious in their effects to these countries, and which, very contrary to the design of their promoters, have so materially contributed to promote the infant manufactures of America. The concluding paragraphs of the report contain some sound commercial axioms, from which our mercantile politicians and legislators might gain instruction. We request our readers may peruse them with attention. They may assist to correct some prejudices imbibed from the tendency of our commercial system.

The President's message to congress received since our last publication, and also given among the documents, affords abundant scope for reflection to those who look beyond the surface, and contemplate the proceedings of this, at present the freest government in the world, and which in course of time may probably become the greatest. The language respecting the two belligerents of Europe, is temperate, and discovers a prudent distrust of the intentions of both. The observations on education are highly liberal, and manifest an enlightened policy, while the notes for preparing their military organization grate discordantly on the ears of philanthropists. Must this fair portion of the earth partake also of the horrors of a military system, and must they follow the distracted and bewildering politics of the old governments of Europe? The paragraph on their finances, presents a favorable picture to contrast with our overburdened state, and proclaims in strong language, the superior happiness of

a nation, which can keep itself disencumbered with wars: a privilege which we hope the United States will not rashly forego.

The public papers continue to give alarming accounts of disturbances in the southern, middle, and western counties of Ireland. The bonds of social order are greatly relaxed, and oppressions, to remedy which no timely or effectual precautions were taken, are likely to prove a severe scourge to the thoughtless promoters of a system, which gave present ease, and precarious power to the higher classes, who were too indifferent to the future mischiefs, of which they were sowing the seeds. They are now alarmed, but not yet instructed, so as to change their system. They look only to force for a remedy, and force is now opposed to force so as to be likely to produce a dreadful collision. We are not advocates for outrage, whether practiced by the poor towards the rich, or by the rich towards the poor, but we anxiously desire to see grievances redressed, and oppressions, though sanctioned by long continued usage, removed.

Oppressions felt by minds, which have not been enlarged by education, goad to acts of savage ferocity. The ideas of such are confused on the subject of strict justice, and it is only the rational man, who seeks to remove the evils he feels, by wise and judiciously adapted means. The southern squires, and their advocates, whine because their fowling and hunting are interrupted,* but in the acts of opposition to those practices on the part of the insurgents, may we not perceive the dictates of natural justice, in opposition to the unnatural inequalities of the law? The game laws transfer the property of animals,

* See the Domestic Occurrences.

which ought to be common to all, to the higher classes of society; and hunters unjustly, and probably illegally, invade their neighbour's property, by breaking down his fences. Ignorance prompts individuals to take the remedy into their own hands, but enlightened policy would urge the higher classes to examine into causes, before the effects are rashly and vindictively punished.

The debates in each house upon the regency question present to the plain understanding of the public, a strange exhibition of legal fictions, and a monstrous jumble of constituted authorities.—Lawyers and statesmen are men framed by nature and education to move in very different spheres; but whenever it happens (as at present) that there are not men qualified by their talents and dispositions, to move in the superior orbit of mind, the business of the state must, of necessity, fall into the management of those subordinate, and subaltern characters, who are perfectly adequate to ordinary occasions, but in great and unexpected conjunctures, are altogether deficient. Accustomed as they have been to wind their professional way “*per ambages rerum*,” having had all their lives to make use of fictions, and ingenious fallacies to get rid of the barbarism and feudality of former times by evasion without overturning precedent, they introduce the same blind attachment to precedent, on those extraordinary occurrences of state affairs, which have no precedent, otherwise they would cease to be extraordinary.

It is, at these times, that sublimity, simplicity and sincerity, qualities personified in the late Mr. Fox, are the requisites of the great statesman, who would have victoriously repelled the absurdity of two out of three co-ordinate estates, themselves imperfectly formed, “*ex*

mero motu” creating the third estate by a fiction, and while they are doing so, assuming and exercising of themselves, no small portion of the executive power; and all this built upon an inchoate and imperfect precedent, that is, on no precedent at all. But lawyers, * who become ministers of state, conduct themselves *coastwise* on the chart of the constitution, from precedent to precedent, as from headland to headland. When forced, by some gust of fortune into the ocean, they fall to cursing their stars, rather than consult them for safety. Our ignorance and incapacity in looking for legal fictions in great and grave questions of state, would induce us to think that the whole and undivided authority of the crown might have merged on the present occasion, as constitutionally, in the legitimate successor to the throne, the heir apparent, as in either house of parliament; neither of which houses could be the less competent to exercise their right and duty, according to the constitution, of imposing such restrictions on the regent as might secure the re-assumption of royal power on the recovery of the king, and in that security, we think all would be attained that was necessary. But the truth seems to be,

* Cicero, in one of his epistles, describes a good Lawyer, but we cannot recognize a single quality of a great statesman. “*Servius hic nobiscum hanc urbanam militiam respondendi, scribendi, cavendi, plenam sollicitudinis ac stomachi secutus est: jus civile didicit: multum vigilavit; laboravit; preesto multis fuit. Multorum stultitiam perpeusus est, arrogantiam pertulit; difficultatem exorsuit. Vixit ad aliorum arbitrium, non ad suum. Magna laus et grata hominibus unum hominem elaborare in ea scientia, quae sit multis profutura.*” How would Cicero be surprised at seeing a lawyer of this description, become the prime minister of one of the greatest nations in the globe!

that the illegitimate estate, which may be called the borough-mongering estate, wishes in all cases to manifest its power in controuling even the authorities constitutionally constituted; it is the spring of the party spirit of the present time, not less in degree than what took place in 1788, though not headed with such personal ability, and personal ambition; and it will form the great vexation in the administration of the regent, and the grand obstruction in his wishes to satisfy a loyal and generous people.

The prince has sanctioned the two houses in the claim of right and power of imposing restrictions, notwithstanding the great minority, or rather the majority in both houses must probably, in the event of his refusal, have placed the executive power undiminished in his hands, after some time had elapsed. But he did not wish that the machine of government should stand still, in such a perilous season, 'till a question comparatively unimportant, were decided, when every day is interesting to the salvation of these countries. His first act (be it remembered) has been a sacrifice of his private feelings on the altar of public duty. He has, in this, displayed at once his moderation, and his magnanimity, but he has expressly said, in auspicious words, that it is only upon the constitutional advice of an ENLIGHTENED parliament, and the zealous support of a loyal and generous people, he relies for the relief of the nation from its present dangers and difficulties. The defect of representation must be remedied, and by that means alone, will he ever be able to obtain constitutional advice from an enlightened parliament, the extinction of faction, and the unanimous support of a generous and loyal people. By what means can the wisdom of parliament be more constitutionally conveyed, than

by keeping up a more strict correspondence with the constituent body, and from whence is the representative body, opaque and dark as it is, to acquire light, but by a reflection from the fountain of power, the source of light and liberty, the PEOPLE?

Evident symptoms appear that the people are becoming tired of the Pittite system, and in the hopes of getting rid of it, they are desirous that the Prince of Wales should be appointed Regent, without having his hands tied up so that he may not be hampered by the anomaly of two courts, and two systems of influence counteracting each other. It is hoped that the prince will be disposed to pursue plans far different from those by which the affairs of the empire have latterly been conducted. In his answer to the two houses, he has expressed himself in handsome terms, that he has equal regard for the welfare of the people, as for the security of the crown. In his answer in 1789, he with great propriety declares that the regal power is a trust for the benefit of the people: a just and enlightened sentiment! Divested of the wish to see the prince at liberty to follow the dictates of his own heart, and that the system of the last fifty years should be radically changed, the late debates in parliament, as to forms and legal fictions have been extremely wearisome and uninteresting, little or nothing of sound reasoning, or constitutional principle was produced on either side. The aim of the faction holding the reins of government is directed to prevent the intended regent, from doing the good he might be inclined to do, lest the probability of their return to power hereafter might be lessened. Much evil may result to the nation from a delay of investing him with full powers. Princes are liable to change like other men, and if the opportunity be now missed,

the inclination may not again return. To gain permanent popularity, and to establish himself firmly in the hearts of a grateful people, a complete change of system is requisite. The tide of popular feeling is now strongly in favour of the prince. Not only the venal, the worshippers of the rising sun, and the vicars of Bray applaud; but the independent portion of the community have their hopes and expectations strongly excited. Their fears also are raised. The prince may now establish himself in the hearts of the people; but if any temporising policy or compromising timidity occur to enfeeble his councils, and if the men he chooses do not prove honest, and brace up their minds to bear the shock of the present crisis of unparalleled danger with firmness, the re-action of popular favour will be severely felt.

The parliament has been at length opened by the great seal being affixed by a vote of both houses to a commission for that purpose, and a bill introduced into the house of commons for appointing the Prince of Wales Regent. The principal restrictions are, not to create any peers for a limited time, and that part of the household establishment should be under the control of the Queen. The latter restriction appears very unreasonable as to the extent to which it has been carried by the majorities in the commons, in favour of the plan proposed by Spencer Perceval and his coadjutors. He claims merit for his attachment to the king, and his adherents are loud in their applauds of "hear, hear," on his professions, but to the impartial he appears as only desirous to retain as much power as he can in his own hands, or rather perhaps to procure it for one, who possessing great ambition, or rather insatiable avarice, will permit him and a se-

lect few to be the ostensible distributors of it. The people take the opposite side, and wish to see the Regent unrestricted, that the measures of reform, which are looked for from him and a new ministry, may not be impeded. Charles Jas. Fox used to say "that confidence was a plant of slow growth with men of long experience," and it is scarcely prudent to be lavish in bestowing praise by anticipation. The struggle for power is evident; the people are no farther interested than as to the question, who will use it best; and the present men have justly forfeited the confidence of the reflecting part of the nation. The question whether *the master of the Buck-hounds* shall be under the controul of the queen, may at first glance appear ludicrous, but it becomes of importance when it is viewed as an affair of patronage. The holders of that office, and of many similar ones are members of parliament, and form component parts of the majorities by which measures obnoxious to the people have been often carried. If it be allowable in the present crisis to wish a preponderance of this influence to the Prince; surely they who look beyond the temporary party politics of the day are justified in desiring to have future restrictions on all undue influence on any side, and while the adherents of princes contend for power to their respective parties, the people should have their attention undeviatingly fixed on a REFORM which would correct all these abuses.

We insert among the documents, a petition from the town of Nottingham, and the resolutions of the Common Hall of the city of London. The Common Council had passed similar resolutions the day before. We give them a place in our records, because we approve of the increas-

ing popular spirit of the country, and because they breathe more of the spirit of genuine freedom, than the resolutions of some greater assemblies. It is our aim to cherish the spirit of liberty in whatever place we find it existing. If our native country gave similar indications, gladly would we record them. But the genius of Erin is not yet awakened.

Our review of foreign politics may be short. The crisis of affairs in Portugal is rapidly approaching, and may probably be terminated before the procrastinating forms now slowly going forward, will allow the Prince of Wales to be invested with the office of Regent. The French have crossed the Zézere in several directions, and appear to meditate vigorous measures. In Spain there is little consolatory, and the dream of Spanish patriotism which caused so great a popular delusion among us, for a time, has nearly lost its influence. Cadiz is closely and vigorously besieged, and the Cortes do not establish their character for an honorable disregard to party views in the present crisis of their country. They have banished the members of the former council of regency, without a trial.

Constantinople has been disturbed by the Janissaries, those machines of the old military despotism, and the scourges of the princes and the people. Turkey may soon be expected to change their former despotism, for a better organized, but not a more just system of military power, under the direction, and at the mandate of the present ruler of continental Europe.

In Norway we are informed that the people have manifested strong opposition to the naval conscription introduced into their country, through French influence. Such a resistance was to be expected from a simple people like the Norwegians,

living remote from luxury, and cherishing a spirit of independence amidst their native rocks and mountains.

In South America the spirit of revolution spreads throughout that vast continent, as well as in the Southern provinces of North America, which were under the dominion of Spain. A contest has long subsisted between the old and the new settlers, or the Spaniards by descent, and the Spaniards by birth. It appears probable, that at no very distant period, the entire continents of America will be independent of Europe. Such a change furnishes scope for imagination at present, and for hopes of the amelioration of mankind in future.

DOCUMENTS.

Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, on the subject of American Manufactures, made April 17, 1810, in obedience to a Resolution of the house of representatives.

(Continued from No. 28, page 394.)

PAPER AND PRINTING.

Some foreign paper is still imported; but the greater part of the consumption is of American manufacture: and it is believed, that if sufficient attention was every where paid to the preservation of rags, a quantity equal to the demand would be made in the United States. Paper-mills are erected in every part of the Union. There are twenty-one in the states of New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode island, and Delaware, alone; and ten in only five counties of the states of New-York and Maryland. Eleven of those mills employ a capital of two hundred thousand dollars, and 180 workmen, and make annually 150,000 dollars worth of paper.

Printing is carried on to an extent commensurate with the demand. Exclusively of the numerous newspapers, which alone form a considerable item in value, all the books for which there is an adequate number of purchasers, are printed in the United States. But sufficient data have not been obtained to form an estimate of the annual aggregate value of the paper made

and of the printing and book-binding executed, in the United States, other than what may be inferred from the population. The manufactures of hanging-paper, and of playing-cards, are also extensive; and that of printing types, of which there are two establishments, the principal at Philadelphia, and another at Baltimore, was fully adequate to the demand, but has lately been affected by the want of regulus of antimony.

Manufactures of Hemp.—The annual importations of foreign hemp amounted to 6,200 tons. But the interruption of commerce has greatly promoted the cultivation of that article in Massachusetts, New York, Kentucky, and several other places; and it is believed, that a sufficient quantity will, in a short time, be produced in the United States.

The manufacture of ropes, cables, and cordage of every description, may be considered as equal to the demand; the exportations of American manufacture for 1806 and 1807, having exceeded the average of 6,500 quintals, and the importations from foreign ports having fallen short of 4,200 ditto.

Exclusive of the rope-walks in all the sea-ports, there are fifteen in Kentucky alone, which consume about one thousand tons of hemp a-year; and six new works were in a state of preparation for the present year.

The manufacturers of sail-duck, formerly established in Rhode Island, in Connecticut, and at Salem, have been abandoned or suspended, partly on account of the high price of hemp, and partly for want of capital. Some is still made; and the species of canvas, commonly called cotton bagging, is now manufactured in various places on an extensive scale. An establishment at Philadelphia employs eight looms; and can make annually 17,000 yards of duck, or 45,000 yards of cotton bagging. There are thirteen manufactures in Kentucky, and two in West Tennessee. The five at or near Lexington, make annually 250,000 yards of duck and cotton bagging.

Spirituous and malt liquors.—The duty on licensed stills amounted in 1801 to \$72,000; and, on account of omissions, might be estimated at 450,000 dollars. As the duty actually paid on the spirits distilled in those stills, did not on an average exceed five cents per gallon, the quantity of spirits distilled during that year from grain and fruit (exclusive of the large gin-dis-

tilleries in cities) must have amounted to about 9,000,000 of gallons, and may at present, the manufacturing having increased at least in the same ratio as the population, be estimated at twelve millions of gallons. To this must be added about three millions of gallons of gin and rum, distilled in cities; making an aggregate of fifteen millions of gallons.

The importations of foreign spirits are nevertheless very considerable, having amounted during the years 1806 and 1807, to 9,750,000 gallons a-year, and yielding a net annual revenue to the United States of 2,865,000 dollars.

The quantity of malt liquors made in the United States, is nearly equal to their consumption.

The annual foreign importations amount only to 185,000 gallons. And the annual exportations of American beer and cider to 187,000 gallons.

But the amount actually made, cannot be correctly stated. It has been said, that the breweries of Philadelphia consumed annually 150,000 bushels of malt; and exclusively of the numerous establishments on a smaller scale, dispersed throughout the country, extensive breweries are known to exist in New York and Baltimore.

From those data, the aggregate value of spirituuous and malt liquors annually made in the United States, cannot be estimated at less than ten millions of dollars.

Iron and Manufactures of Iron.—The information received respecting that important branch is very imperfect. It is however well known that iron ore abounds, and that numerous furnaces and forges are erected throughout the United States. They supply a sufficient quantity of hollow ware, and of castings of every description: but about 4,500 tons of bar iron are annually imported from Russia, and probably an equal quantity from Sweden and England together. A vague estimate states the amount of bar iron annually used in the United States at fifty thousand tons, which would leave about forty thousand for that of American manufacture. Although a great proportion of the ore found in Vermont, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Virginia, be of a superior quality, and some of the iron manufactured there equal to any imported, it is to be regretted, that from the great demand, and from want of proper attention in the manufacture, much inferior American iron is brought to market. On that ac-

count, the want of the ordinary supply of Russian iron has been felt in some of the slitting and rolling mills. But whilst a reduction of the duty on Russian iron is asked from several quarters, it is generally stated, that a high or prohibitory duty on English bar, slit, rolled, and sheet iron, would be beneficial; that which is usually imported on account of its cheapness, being made with pit coal, and of a very inferior quality.

The annual importations of sheet, slit, and hoop iron, amount to five hundred and sixty-five tons; and the quantity rolled and slit in the United States, is estimated at seven thousand tons. In the state of Massachusetts alone, are found thirteen rolling and slitting mills, in which about 3,500 tons of bar iron, principally from Russia, are annually rolled or slit. A portion is used for sheet iron, and nail rods for wrought nails; but two-thirds of the whole quantity of bar iron, flattened by machinery in the United States, is used in the manufacture of cut nails, which has now extended throughout the whole country, and being altogether an American invention, substituting machinery to manual labour, deserves particular notice. It will be sufficient here to state, that the annual product of that branch alone, may be estimated at twelve hundred thousand dollars; and that, exclusively of the saving of fuel, the expense of manufacturing cut nails is not one-third part of that of forging wrought nails. About two hundred and eighty tons are already annually exported; but the United States continue to import annually more than fifteen hundred tons of wrought nails and spikes. An increase of duty on these, and a drawback on the exportation of the cut nails, is generally asked for.

A considerable quantity of blistered, and some refined steel, are made in America: the foreign importations exceed 11,000 cwt. a-year.

The manufactures of iron consist principally of agricultural implements, and of all the usual work performed by common blacksmiths. To these may be added, anchors, shovels and spades, axes, scythes, and other edge-tools, saws, bits, and stirrups, and a great variety of the coarser articles of ironmongery; but cutlery, and all the finer species of hardware and of steel work, are almost altogether imported from Great Britain. Balls, shells, and cannon of small caliber, are cast in several places; and three founderies for casting

solid those of the largest caliber, together with the proper machinery for boring and finishing them, are established at Cecil county, Maryland, near the city of Washington, and at Richmond, in Virginia; each of the two last may cast 300 pieces of artillery a-year, and a great number of iron and brass cannon are made at and near the seat of government. Those of Philadelphia, and near the Hudson river are not now employed. It may be here added, that there are several iron founderies for casting every species of work wanted for machinery, and that steam-engines are made at that of Philadelphia.

At the two public armouries of Springfield, and Harper's-ferry, 19,000 muskets are annually made. About twenty thousand more are made at several factories, of which the most perfect is said to be that near New Haven, and which, with the exception of that erected at Richmond, by the state of Virginia, are all private establishments. These may, if wanted, be immediately enlarged, and do not include a number of gun-smiths employed in making rifles, and several other species of arms. Swords and pistols are also manufactured in several places.

Although it is not practicable to make a correct statement of the value of all the iron, and manufactures of iron, annually made in the United States, it is believed to be from twelve to fifteen millions of dollars. The annual importations from all foreign countries, including iron bar, and every description of manufactures of iron or steel, are estimated at near four millions of dollars.

Copper and Brass.—Rich copper mines are found in New Jersey in Virginia, and near Lake Superior; but they are not now wrought. The principal manufactures of that material, are those of stills and other vessels; but the copper in sheets and bolts is almost universally imported; the only manufacture for that object, which is at Boston; not receiving sufficient encouragement; although a capital of 25,000 dollars has been vested in a rolling mill, and other apparatus. The true reason is, that those articles are imported free of duty; and the owner seems to be principally employed in casting bells, and other articles.

Zinc has been lately discovered in Pennsylvania; and there are a few manufactures of metal buttons, and various brass wares.

Manufactures of Lead.—Lead is found in Virginia, and some other places, but the richest mines of that metal are found in Upper Louisiana, and also, it is said, in the adjacent country on the east side of the Mississippi. They are not yet wrought to the extent of which they are susceptible; and, after supplying the western country, do not furnish more than two hundred tons annually to the Atlantic states.

The annual importations from foreign countries of red and white lead, amount to 1,150 tons. And those of lead itself, and of all other manufactures of lead, to 1,325 tons.

The principal American manufactures are those of shot, and colours of lead. Of the first, there are two establishments on a large scale at Philadelphia, and another in Louisiana, which are more than sufficient to supply the whole demand, sized at six hundred tons a-year. Five hundred and sixty tons of red and white lead, litharge, and some other preparations of that metal, are made in Philadelphia alone. A repeal of the duty of one cent per pound on lead, and an equalization of that on the manufactures of lead, by charging them all with the two cents per pound laid on white and red lead, is asked by the manufacturers.

Various other paints and colours are also prepared in Philadelphia, and some other places.

Tin, japanned, plated Wares.—The manufacture of tin ware is very extensive, and Connecticut supplies the greater part of the United States with that article; but the sheets are always imported. The manufacture of plated ware, principally for coach-makers and saddlers, employs at Philadelphia seventy-three workmen; and the amount annually made there, exceeds one hundred thousand dollars. There are other similar establishments at New York, Baltimore, Boston, and Charlestown.

Gun-Powder.—Saltpetre is found in Virginia, Kentucky, and some other of the western states and territories; but it is principally imported from the East Indies. The manufacture of gun-powder is nearly, and may at any moment be made altogether, adequate to the consumption; the importation of foreign powder amounting only to 200,000 pounds, and the exportation of American powder to 100,000 pounds. The manufacture of Brandy-wine, which employs a capital of 75,000 dollars, and 36 workmen, and is consider-

ed as the most perfect, makes alone 225,000 pounds annually, and might make 600,000 pounds, if there were a demand for it. Two others near Baltimore, have a capital of 100,000 dollars, and make 450,000 pounds of a quality, said lately to be equal to any imported. There are several other powder-mills in Pennsylvania, and other places; but the total amount of gun-powder made in the United States is not ascertained.

Earthen and Glass Ware.—A sufficient quantity of the coarser species of pottery is made every where; and information has been received of four manufactures of a finer kind lately established. One at Philadelphia, with a capital of 11,000 dollars, manufactures a species similar to that made in Staffordshire, in England; and the others, in Chester county in Pennsylvania, in New Jersey, and on the Ohio, make various kinds of queen's-ware.

Information has been obtained of ten glass manufactures, which employ about 140 glass blowers, and make annually 27,000 boxes of window glass, containing each 100 square feet of glass. That of Boston makes crown glass equal to any imported: all the other make green or German glass, worth 15 per cent. less: that of Pittsburgh uses coal, and all the others, wood for fuel.

The annual importations of foreign window glass amounted to 27,000 boxes; the extension of the domestic manufacture, which supplies precisely one-half of the consumption, being prevented by the want of workmen.

Some of those manufactures make also green bottles, and other wares: and two works, employing together six glass-blowers, have been lately erected at Pittsburgh, and make decanters, tumblers, and every other description of flint glass, of a superior quality.

Chemical Preparations.—Copperas is extracted in large quantities from pyrites in Vermont, New Jersey, and Tennessee. About 200,000 pounds of oil of vitriol, and other acids, are annually manufactured in a single establishment at Philadelphia. Various other preparations and drugs are also made there, and in some other places; and the annual amount exported, exceeds 30,000 dollars in value.

Salt.—The salt-springs in Oneondago and Cayuga in the state of New York, furnish about 800,000 bushels a-year; and the quantity may be increased in proper-

tion to the demand. Those of the western states and territories supply about an equal quantity; that known by the name of the Wabash Saline, which belongs to the United States, making now 130,000 bushels. Valuable discoveries have also lately been made on the banks of the Kenhawa. But the annual importation of foreign salt amounts to more than three millions of bushels, and cannot be superceded by American salt unless it be made along the sea coast. The works in the state of Massachusetts are declining, and cannot proceed unless the duty on foreign salt should again be laid. It is necessary to shelter the works from the heavy summer rains by light roofs moving on rollers. This considerably increases the expense; and it appears that the erection of ten thousand superficial square feet, costs one thousand dollars, and that they produce only two hundred bushels a-year. A more favourable result is anticipated on the coast of North Carolina, on account of the difference in the climate; and works, covering 275,000 square feet, have been lately erected there.

Miscellaneous.—Respecting the other manufactures enumerated in the former part of this report, no important or correct information has been received, except as relates to the two following:

Straw bonnets and hats are made with great success; and a small district in Rhode Island and Massachusetts annually exports to other parts of the Union, to the amount of 250,000 dollars.

Several attempts have been made to print calicoes, but it does not seem that the manufactures can, without additional duties, stand the competition with similar foreign articles. The difficulties under which they labour are stated under the petition of the calico-printers of Philadelphia to Congress. A considerable capital has been vested in an establishment near Baltimore, which can print 12,000 yards a-week, and might be considerably extended, if the profits and the demand afforded sufficient encouragement.

From this sketch of American manufactures, it may with certainty be inferred that their annual product exceeds one hundred and twenty millions of dollars. And it is not improbable that the raw materials used, and the provisions and other articles consumed, by the manufacturers, create a home market for agricultural products not very inferior to that which arises from foreign demand. A result more favour-

able than might have been expected from a view of the natural causes which impede the introduction, and retard the progress of manufactures in the United States.

The revenue of the United States being principally derived from duties on the importation of foreign merchandize, these have also operated as a premium in favour of American manufactures; whilst, on the other hand, the continuance of peace, and the frugality of government, have rendered unnecessary any oppressive taxes, tending materially to enhance the price of labour, or impeding any species of industry.

No cause indeed has perhaps more promoted, in every respect, the general prosperity of the United States, than the absence of those systems of internal restrictions and monopoly which continue to disfigure the state of society in other countries. No laws exist here directly or indirectly confining man to a particular occupation or place, or excluding any citizen from any branch he may at any time think proper to pursue. Industry is in every respect perfectly free and unfettered; every species of trade, commerce, art, profession, and manufacture, being equally open to all, without requiring any previous regular apprenticeship, admission, or license. Hence the progress of America has not been confined to the improvement of her agriculture, and to the rapid formation of new settlements and states in the wilderness, but her citizens have extended their commerce through every part of the globe, and carry on with complete success, even those branches for which a monopoly had heretofore been considered essentially necessary.

Washington,
April 17th, 1810.

ALBERT GALLATIN.

Message of the President of the United American States to the Congress.

Washington, Dec. 5.

The president of the United States this day communicated, by Mr. Edward Coles his private secretary, the following message to the Congress:—

“*Fellow-citizens of the Senate, and of the house of Representatives,*

“The embarrassments which have prevailed in our foreign relations, so much employed the deliberations of Congress, makes it a primary duty, in meeting you, to communicate whatever may have occurred, in that branch of our national affairs.

"The act of the last session of congress 'concerning the commercial intercourse between the United States and Great Britain and France and their dependencies,' having invited in a new form, a termination of their edicts against our neutral commerce, copies of the acts were immediately forwarded to our ministers at London and Paris, with a view that its object might be within the early attention of the French and British governments.

"By the communication received through our minister at Paris, it appeared that a knowledge of the act by the French government was followed by a declaration that the Berlin and Milan decrees were revoked, and would cease to have effect on the first day of November ensuing.—These being the only known edicts of France; within the description of the act, and the revocation of them, being such that they ceased, at that date, to violate our neutral commerce; the fact, as prescribed by law, was announced by a proclamation bearing date the second day of November.

"It would have well accorded with the conciliatory views, indicated by this proceeding on the part of France, to have extended them to all the grounds of just complaint, which now remain unadjusted with the United States. It was particularly anticipated that, as a further evidence of just dispositions towards them, restoration would have been immediately made of the property of our citizens seized under a misapplication of the principle of reprisals, combined with a misconstruction of a law of the United States. This expectation has not been fulfilled.

"From the British government no communication on the subject of the act has been received. To a communication from our minister at London of the revocation, by the French government, of its Berlin and Milan decrees, it was answered that the British system would be relinquished as soon as the repeal of the French decrees should have actually taken effect, and the commerce of neutral nations have been restored to the condition in which it stood previously to the promulgation of those decrees.

"This pledge, although it does not necessarily import, does not exclude the intention of relinquishing, along with the orders in council, the practice of these novel blockades which have a like effect of interrupting our neutral commerce. And this further justice to the United States

is the rather to be looked for, inasmuch as the blockades in question, being not more contrary to the established law of nations, than inconsistent with the rules of blockade formerly recognized by Great Britain herself, could have no alleged basis other than the plea of retaliation alleged as the basis of the Orders in Council. Under the modification of the original Orders of Nov. 1807 into the Orders of April 1809, there is indeed scarcely a nominal distinction between the Orders and the blockades. One of those illegitimate blockades, bearing date in May, 1806, having been expressly avowed to be still unrescinded, and to be in effect, comprehended in the Orders in Council, was too distinctly brought within the purview of the Act of Congress, not to be comprehended in the explanation of the requisites to a compliance with it. The British Government was accordingly apprized by our Minister near it, that such was the light in which the subject was to be regarded.

"In this new posture our relations with these Powers, the consideration of Congress will be properly turned to a removal of doubts which may occur in the exposition, and difficulties in the execution, of the Act above cited.

"The commerce of the United States, with the North of Europe, heretofore much vexed by licentious cruisers, particularly under the Danish flag, has latterly been visited with fresh and extensive depredations. The measures pursued in behalf of our injured citizens, not having obtained justice for them, a further and more formal interposition with the Danish government is contemplated. The principles which have been maintained by that government in relation to neutral commerce, and the friendly professions of his Danish majesty towards the United States are valuable pledges in favour of a successful issue.

"Among the events growing out of the state of the Spanish monarchy, our attention was imperiously attracted to the change developing itself in that portion of West Florida; which, though of right appertaining to the United States, had remained in the possession of Spain; awaiting the result of negotiation for its actual delivery to them. The Spanish authority was subverted—and a situation produced, exposing the country to ulterior events, which might essentially affect the rights and welfare of the union. In such a conjecture, I did not delay the interposition required for the

occupancy of the territory west of the river Perdido; to which the title of the United States extends, and to which the laws provided for the territory of Orleans are applicable. With this view the proclamation, of which a copy is laid before you, was confided to the governor of that territory, to be carried into effect. The legality and necessity of the course pursued, assure me of the favourable light in which it will present itself to the legislature; and of the promptitude with which they will supply whatever provisions may be due to the essential rights and equitable interests of the people thus brought into the bosom of the American family.

"Our amity with the powers of Barbary, with the exception of a recent occurrence at Tunis, of which an explanation is just received, appears to have been uninterrupted, and to have become more firmly established.

"With the Indian tribes, also, the peace and friendship of the United States are found to be so eligible, that the general disposition to preserve both continues to gain strength.

"I feel particular satisfaction in remarking that an interior view of our country presents us with greatful proofs of its substantial and encresing prosperity. To thriving agriculture, and the improvements related to it, is added a highly interesting extension of useful manufactures; the combined product of professional occupations, and of household industry. Such, indeed, is the experience of economy, as well as of policy, in these substitutes for supplies heretofore obtained by foreign commerce, that, in a national view, the change is justly regarded as of itself more than a recompence for those privations and losses resulting from foreign injustice, which furnished the general impulse required for its accomplishment. How far it may be expedient to guard the infancy of this improvement in the distribution of labour, by regulations of the commercial tariff, is a subject which cannot fail to suggest itself to your patriotic reflections.

"It will rest with the consideration of Congress, also whether a provident, as well as fair encouragement, should not be given to our navigation, by such regulations as will place it on a level of competition with foreign vessels, particularly in transporting the important and bulky productions of our own soil. The failure of equality and reciprocity in the existing regulation on this subject operates, in our ports, as a

premium to foreign competitors; and the inconvenience must increase, as these may be multiplied, under more favourable circumstances, by the more than countervailing encouragements now given them, by the laws of their respective countries.

"Whilst it is universally admitted that a well-instructed people alone can be permanently a free people; and whilst it is evident that the means of diffusing and improving useful knowledge form so small a proportion of the expenditures for national purposes, I cannot presume it to be unseasonable to invite your attention to the advantages of superadding, to the means of education provided by the several States, a seminary of learning, instituted by the national legislature, within the limits of their exclusive jurisdiction; the expense of which might be defrayed, or reimbursed, out of the vacant grounds which have accrued to the nation within those limits.

"Such an institution though local in its legal character, would be universal in its beneficial effects. By enlightening the opinions; by expanding the patriotism; and by assimilating the principles, the sentiments and manners of those who might resort to this temple of science, to be re-distributed, in due time, through every part of the community; sources of jealousy and prejudice would be diminished, the features of national character would be multiplied, and great extent given to social harmony.

"But above all, a well constituted seminary in the centre of the nation, is recommended by the consideration, that the additional instruction emanating from it, would contribute not less to strengthen the foundations, than to adorn the structure, of our free and happy system of government.

"Among the commercial abuses still committed under the American flag, and leaving in force my former references to that subject, it appears that American citizens are instrumental in carrying on a traffic in enslaved Africans, equally in violation of the laws of humanity, and in defiance of those of their own country. The same just and benevolent motives which produced the interdiction in force against this criminal conduct, will doubtless be felt by Congress, in devising further means of suppressing the evil.

"In the midst of uncertainties necessarily connected with the great interests of the United States, prudence requires a continuance of our defensive and precaution-

nary arrangements. The secretary of war and secretary of the Navy, will submit the statements and estimates which may aid congress, in their ensuing provisions for the land and naval forces. The statements of the latter will include a view of the transfers of appropriations in the naval expenditure, and the grounds on which they were made.

"The fortifications for defence of our maritime frontier, have been prosecuted according to the plan laid down in 1808. The works, with some exceptions are completed, and furnished with ordnance. Those for the security of New York, though far advanced towards completion, will require a further time and appropriation. This is the case with a few others, either not completed, or in need of repairs.

"The improvements, in quality and quantity, made in the manufactory of cannon; and of small arms, both at the public armories, and private factories, warrant additional confidence in the competency of these resources, for supplying the public exigencies.

"These preparations for arming the militia, having thus far provided for one of the objects contemplated by the power vested in congress, with respect to that great bulwark of the public safety, it is for their consideration, whether further provisions are not requisite, for the other contemplated objects, of organization and discipline. To give to this great mass of physical and moral force, the efficiency which it merits, and is capable of receiving, it is indispensable that they should be instructed and practised in the rules by which they are to be governed. Towards an accomplishment of this important work I recommend for the consideration of congress the expediency of instituting a system which shall, in the first instance, call into the field, at the public expense, and at a given time, certain portions of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers. The instruction and discipline thus required gradually diffuse through the entire body of the militia that practical knowledge and promptitude for actual service, which are the great ends to be pursued. Experience has left no doubt, either of the necessity, or of the efficacy of competent military skill, in those portions of an army, in fitting it for the final duties, which it may have to perform.

"The corps of engineers, with the military academy, are entitled to the early

attention of Congress. The buildings at the seat, first by law, for the present academy, are not so far in decay, as not to afford the necessary accommodation. But a revision of the law is recommended, principally with a view to a more enlarged cultivation and diffusion of the advantages of such institutions, by providing professorships for all the necessary branches of military instruction, and by the establishment of an additional academy, at the seat of government, or elsewhere. The means by which war as well for defence, as for offence, are now carried on, render these schools of the most scientific operations an indispensable part of every adequate system. Even among nations whose large standing armies and frequent wars afford every other opportunity of instruction, these establishments are found to be indispensable, for the due attainment of the branches of military science, which require a regular course of study and experiment. In a government, happily without the other opportunities, seminaries where the elementary principles of war can be taught without actual war, and without the expense of extensive and standing armies, have the precious advantage of uniting an essential preparation against external danger, with a scrupulous regard to internal safety. In no other way, probably, can a provision of equal efficacy for the public defence, be made at so little expense, or more consistently with public liberty.

"The receipts into the treasury during the year ending on the 30th of September last (and amounting to more than eight millions and a half, of dollars) have exceeded the current expences of the government, including the interest of the public debt. For the purpose of reimbursing at the end of the year 3,759,000 dollars; of the principal, a loan, as authorised by law, had been negotiated to that amount, but has since been reduced to 2,750,000 dollars: the reduction being permitted by the state of the Treasury, in which there will be a balance remaining at the end of the year, estimated at 2000,000 dollars. For the probable receipts of the next year, and other details, refer to statements which will be transmitted from the Treasury; and which will enable you to judge what further provisions may be necessary for the ensuing.

"Reserving to future occasions, in the course of the session, whatever other communications may claim your attention, I

close the present, by expressing my reliance, under the blessing of Divine Providence, on the judgment and patriotism which will guide your measures, at a period particularly calling for united councils, and inflexible exertions, for the welfare of our country, and by assuring you of the fidelity and alacrity with which my co-operation will be afforded.

“JAMES MADISON.”

Resolutions of the Common Council of Nottingham.

At a Meeting of the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council, and Livery of the town and county of the town of Nottingham, held at the Guildhall, in and for the said town, on Wednesday the 2d of January, 1811, pursuant to the regular notice of the purpose of such Meeting,

JOHN BATES, esq. Mayor in the Chair,

Resolved unanimously, That with the most fervent wishes for his Majesty's speedy recovery, we contemplate with the deepest sorrow the present afflictive dispensation of Providence which has exposed our beloved monarch to the most dreadful pain and suffering, involved the royal family in the deepest distress, and deprived the people of these realms of any legal organ of the executive authority in the state.

That from the fullest confidence in the mature age, and amiable character of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, we observe with the most lively satisfaction, that the houses of Lords and Commons regard him as the fittest person in the present emergency, to whom to commit on behalf of his Majesty, and in trust for his people, the exercise of those prerogatives which, in the person of the King, are necessarily suspended by his Majesty's indisposition.

That it is with feelings of the greatest apprehension that we understand it to be in the contemplation of those who at present act as his Majesty's confidential servants, to annihilate, for a time at least, some of the most essential prerogatives of the crown, and to limit and fetter some of its most important functions, in the person of the Prince of Wales, as Regent, because it appears to us that such an attempt is as insulting to the character of the Prince, as it is derogatory to the principles of our form of government. We desire to see the power and majesty of the crown and the will of the people, always fully and fairly represented in the Parliament of

the British Constitution, which contemplates the prerogatives of the Crown, not as the property of the King, but as trusts reposed in him for the benefit of the people, without whose continued agency the people will be defrauded of their most essential rights, and the glorious fabric of the English Constitution remain defective and imperfect.

That the petitions to the houses of Lords and Commons, now produced to this meeting by the town clerk, be adopted as the act of this meeting; and that the Common Seal of this Corporation being there-to respectively affixed, the same be signed by the town clerk, and presented, in the name of the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council and Livery, to the houses of Lords and Commons.

That the petition to the house of Lords be transmitted by the town clerk, for presentation, to the right honourable lord Holland, our Recorder; and the petition to the house of Commons, to Daniel Parker Coke, and John Smith, esqrs. our Representatives therein, requesting their support of the principles of the petitions.

That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the town clerk, and published in such manner as the Mayor may direct.

That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Mayor, for calling this meeting in pursuance of the requisition made to him for that purpose, and for his attentive and impartial conduct in the Chair.

By order of the Meeting,

GEORGE COLDHAM, Town Clerk.

Resolutions of the Common Hall, London.

SMITH, MAYOR.

At a Meeting or Assembly of the Mayor, Aldermen and Liverymen of the several Companies of the city of London, in common Hall assembled, at the Guildhall of the said city, on Wednesday the 9th day of January, 1811.

Resolved unanimously, That the end and design of all Governments, is, or ought to be, the good of the people—that the prerogatives of the Crown are vested in the King, as a sacred trust for their benefit.

2. Resolved unanimously, That it is, therefore, equally their duty to guard, by every constitutional means, against all encroachments and innovations upon the just and necessary powers and prerogatives of the crown, as to oppose those encroachments and innovations which have so notoriously been made upon the representative branch of our Constitution.

3. Resolved unanimously—That, anxious, as we are, to remove from the Government every species of unjust influence, equally injurious to King and people, and to promote a system of general reform, especially in that branch of the Legislature, the corrupt state of which has been the great source of all our national calamities the Commons House of Parliament; we, nevertheless, feel equally anxious to maintain the real splendour and dignity of the crown, and all its just and necessary powers and prerogatives.

4. Resolved unanimously—That deeply lamenting the afflicting incapacity of our most gracious Sovereign, by which the functions of the Executive Government have been suspended, we derive a cheering consolation in contemplating the many amiable qualities of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and the attachment which he has invariably evinced for the rights and liberties of the people, affording the nation the best grounded confidence of seeing the royal functions wisely and ably exercised.

5. That, impressed with these considerations, we cannot but view all attempts to abridge the Royal Authority, and impose restrictions upon the Regent, in the person of his Royal Highness, as highly dangerous and unconstitutional, establishing a new estate in the realm, to controul and counteract the Executive Government, and tending to render it feeble and inefficient, at a time when the state of the nation peculiarly requires its full energies.

6. Resolved, That we, therefore, view with concern and indignation the attempts which are made to degrade the kingly office, and to render it dependent upon those ministers, who have so long abused the confidence of the Sovereign, who have uniformly shown a marked contempt for public opinion, whose whole career has been a series of incapacity, misconduct, and violation of the Constitution; who have added to the catalogue of their crimes by usurping the Royal Authority, and who, not content with having engrossed patronage and emolument, and secured to themselves and adherents a profusion of pensions and sinecures, are now endeavouring to obtain an unconstitutional power and influence, which would enable them to embarrass and impede the Executive Government in all its operations, and render it subject to their controul.

7. Resolved unanimously—That the command over his Majesty's seals assumed,

and exercised by the two houses of Parliament in the late instance of ordering an issue of treasure from his Majesty's Exchequer, appears to us subversive of the independence, and dangerous to the existence of the regal part of our government, and that to prevent the necessity of having again recourse to such perilous expedients, and of thereby confirming and extending still further this alarming precedent, it is the opinion of this meeting, that in the present suspension of the exercise of the Royal Authority, the most constitutional mode of proceeding would be to imitate the glorious example of our ancestors in 1688, by the two houses of Parliament addressing his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to take upon himself the civil, military, and financial administration of the government.

8. Resolved unanimously, That this Common Hall do petition the Right Honourable the House of Lords and the Honourable the House of Commons, agreeably to the foregoing Resolutions.

The drafts of the petitions being read, were unanimously agreed to.

9. Resolved unanimously—That the said petition be signed by the Lord Mayor, four Aldermen, and ten Liverymen.

10. Resolved unanimously—That the Sheriffs do wait upon, and request some Lord in Parliament to present the said petition to the Right Honourable the House of Lords.

11. Resolved unanimously—That Mr. Alderman Coombe, one of the Representatives of this city in Parliament, be requested to present the said petition to the Honourable the House of Commons.

12. Resolved unanimously—That the Representatives of this city in parliament be instructed to support the said petition in the house of Commons, and to oppose all attempts to abridge and fetter the Regent with restrictions.

13. Resolved unanimously—That the thanks of this Common Hall be given to Thomas Smith, esq. Alderman, our late worthy Chief Magistrate, for his very able, upright, and independent conduct, during the time the ardent and important duties of that office were confided to him, wherein he evinced the most kind and friendly attention to his fellow-citizens, a dignified and unostentatious hospitality, a strict impartiality on all occasions, and a constant regard for the rights, liberties, and franchises of this city.

14. Resolved unanimously—That the

thanks of this Common Hall be given to Robert Waithman, esq. who moved, and Samuel Favell, esq. who seconded the several resolutions which have been agreed to this day.

15. Resolved unanimously—That the thanks of this Common Hall be given to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, for his readiness in calling this meeting, and his impartial conduct in the chair this day.

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

INTERNAL DISTURBANCES.*

It is impossible to consider this subject, including, as it necessarily does, a retrospect to past, but not very remote times, without shuddering at the "dreadful notes of preparation," which appear to strike every eye, and every ear, but those, that

*We are quite free from internal disturbances in the north. The causes which have long operated to produce disturbances in the south, do not exist with us, or at least not at all in the same proportion. Our poor people are more independent of the richer classes. Those employed in manufactories are not so much under the power of their employers, as the small cottiers, and labourers are of the landholders, and consequently they are not so much oppressed. Independence enlarges their views. The disturbances in the south appear to proceed from long continued oppressions of the poor, who feel their oppressions, and are not sufficiently enlightened to perceive that violence on their parts only renders their situation worse. We do not wonder at their outrages, and that men with uncultivated minds taking revenge into their own hands, should commit shocking crimes. Instead of looking exclusively at their faults, let us look at the language and conduct of the higher classes. How do the rich merchants of Waterford, and other commercial towns in the south, and the aristocratic 'squires of the county Tipperary, speak of the poor papists and natives, as they call them, as if we had not all a common country and birth-place in Ireland. We see that with the highest state of mental improvement, men do not easily forgive injuries: how then can we expect that these men, "brayed in the mortar by the pestle of the church and of the state," men oppressed by their landlords, kept in poverty and ignorance, ridiculed and abused, should conquer the propensities of our common nature, and be alone blamed for

should be constantly open and watchful for the peace and welfare of the public. The pretended hostility of the Shanavests and Caravats to each other is now laid aside, because no longer deemed necessary, and a peace, hostile to public tranquillity, has been announced between the adverse parties. Corps of peasantry are carrying on military operations throughout the counties of Kilkenny, Tipperary, Limerick and the adjacent parts, as if they were acting under the sanction of the laws. Systematic robbery supplies them with arms, and their depredations are carried on with little or no appearance of tumultuary violence. All field sports are given over; the fowler is sure to be despoiled of his gun; and, unless a speedy and effectual check is given to the spirit of insurrection, the country will present the most dreadful of all spectacles, an armed peasantry, and a disarmed gentry.

Very lately, a fellow in the neighbourhood of Clogheen, told a gentleman, whom he met hunting, that if he ever heard again of his dogs and hoots going over other men's grounds, he would shoot him." The hint was effectual, and this alone demonstrates the state of terror and humiliation, to which the natural guardians of the public peace, the country gentlemen, are reduced in that part of the country.

It is computed that upwards of 10,000 stand of arms are in the hands of the insurgents in a single district of the county Tipperary.

In the county of Meath there has been a great many depredations perpetrated lately, by a banditti stiling themselves *Jack Carriers*. On the night of the 16th ult. they attacked the farm-yard and offices of Mr. T. B. Hardman, and fired several shots into the house of his bailiff, and having forcibly entered it, threatened to shoot him, beat him severely, and then, in a most savage manner, scraped his back with a wool card. After thus maltreating the bailiff, they cut down about 250 young trees in the plantation, and destroy-

excesses, which the views of the rich have as essentially contributed to produce, as their own uneducated and ungoverned passions. Let us not always look at the dark side of character for a generous display of feeling among the lower classes of our country, let us refer to the account of their conduct near Cork, as noticed in the next article, in an extract from Counsellor O'Connell's speech.

ed several gates, &c. They then left a written paper with the bailiff, threatening all persons who should take lands over the heads of others in the counties of Dublin, Meath, or Louth. When they departed, they took with them five mares and one horse, which were afterwards found on the hill of Bellewstown.

On the 8th ult. five large ash trees were cut down and carried away from the estate of George Palmer, esq. near Castle-Tellingham.

On the 24th ult. a meeting of the principal inhabitants of Drogheda was held there, when they came to sundry resolutions respecting the disturbed state of the country. Among other things they say: "We behold with the utmost horror and indignation the commencement in this neighbourhood of that system of nocturnal plunder and depredation, which has so long distracted the southern counties of this kingdom." The meeting next opened a subscription for the purpose of raising a fund to reward such persons as shall be the means of discovering the depredators, and they also appointed a committee to meet weekly in order to devise such measures as may be judged necessary, and to communicate with neighbouring magistrates.

On the 27th ult. a meeting of the magistrates of the county of Meath was held at Dunleek, when a committee was appointed to enquire into the causes of the disturbances which have lately disgraced this neighbourhood. They afterwards resolved, "that upon a close investigation, and on the report of the committee, we find that this neighbourhood is in a most disturbed state."—They afterwards entered into a liberal subscription for obtaining discoveries, and defraying expences.

We gladly publish the following sketch of Irish character from Counsellor O'Connell's speech in the Catholic Committee... from Cobbett's Register of 19th inst. page 136.

"When a detachment of the Brunswick corps, quartered at Fermoy, in August last, was ordered to embark at Cove, on the march from Fermoy, some women, who accompanied the soldiers hither, for the purpose of keeping up with the battalion, or because they knew that incumbered with children, they would have less prospect of being received in the transports, began to abandon their children, leaving them in the potato gardens and behind the hedges. one or two of the children were found in much danger from the cattle and pigs.

The country people became alarmed; compassion shot, like electricity, through them; they crowded to the troops and attended their march, receiving every child the women chose to leave behind; they even offered money to the mothers to give up the children without exposing them. Astonished at the eagerness of their humanity, some of the women availed themselves of it, and actually set up their children to auction. A child or two between Middleton and —, sold as high as six shillings. I was myself shown some of the children in about six weeks after, and the potato diet had agreed very well with them. Can any man be found so callous to humanity, as not to regret that the noble nature of the Irish peasant is not better cultivated; but the fact I speak of passed almost as a thing of course, and nearly without notice: it was indeed mentioned in one or two of the Cork news-papers, but there it rested. In England, had a man of fortune, out of ostentation or vanity, taken up a single child of a foreign soldier it would be blazoned forth trumpet-tongued; the news-papers would never cease extolling the bountiful benefactor—the fact would be sung in ballads, and recorded in lyric poetry; but in Ireland it is a crime against the hirelings of the day, to praise Irish virtues; for which, I trust, that they will never forgive me."

Sir Samuel Romilly, in the midst of his numerous professional and political engagements, does not suffer the cause of humanity to be neglected. He has lately written to this country to press the sending forward the petition for changing the punishment of death for robbing bleach-greens, which, he says, he shall be very happy to present to the house of Commons, as soon as he receives it.

The Public Bakery of Lisburn not having been latterly conducted so as to answer the original plan, a new bakery has been lately opened in that town, by an individual on his own account, with an intention to embrace the original design of such institutions. Connected with the bakery, there is a store for the sale of oat-meal, by retail, which being entirely conducted on a ready money plan, affords that article on much lower terms to the poor, than when it was sold through hucksters, who often trust, and are under the necessity of charging a high premium as an insurance against the risks of bad debts. It is of great importance to the poor to accustom them to deal for ready money, and

practically to convince them of the benefits of such a mode. Running into debt is generally ruinous to the poor, not only to their comforts, but frequently to their morality. A poor family dependent solely on their weekly labour, should never except on extraordinary occasions, as sickness, or great emergencies, anticipate their small funds. By so doing they learn habits of improvident wastefulness, and only transfer the burden to be more severely felt again with additional pressure. The friends to the poor should strongly inculcate this lesson on those over whom they may have influence. Perhaps the poor can by no means be more effectually served, without violating their independence, than by plans calculated to enable them to economize their slender earnings; and for this purpose, public bakeries and ready-money meat stores are particularly serviceable.

An institution of this kind might be of

singular advantage in the town of Belfast. It might be connected with the House of Industry: the officers of that institution to conduct the sale without additional expense, and the knowledge of the situation of the poor already acquired by the committee would enable them to select proper persons to receive the benefits of such a scheme, by giving the poor tickets to enable them to purchase oat meal in proportion to the size of their families.

Much may be done for the poor by assisting them in plans of frugality and foresight: they may thus be advanced higher in the scale of civilization, as rational improvable beings, while mere giving to them not unfrequently injures by teaching dependence and a lazy reliance on casual supplies. The enlightened science of benevolence should always be judiciously coupled with the practice. Neither, without the aid of the other, is really efficacious.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From 20th December, 1810; till 20th January, 1811.

The long continuance of wet weather has greatly interrupted the progress of the plough. Except in the light and dry soils, very little tillage has yet been accomplished; and unless a favourable change takes place soon, the field work of the farmer will be much behind, and probably occasion a late seed time, as was the case last year.

A very considerable proportion of the wheat intended to be sown, has not been got into the ground in proper time. In many parts of the country, the people are busily employed at trenching in their wheat on soils that were too wet to allow of its being sown earlier. The produce of those late crops will depend more on the kind of weather we have in summer, than the earlier ones; if it prove a cold or wet season, they will not arrive at that state of maturity which is necessary to produce either good quality, or a sufficient quantity; and although it may sometimes seem advisable to sow wheat at a late season, for the sake of lessening the spring work, which in adverse seasons is frequently too heavy for the farmer to get through in proper time; yet it is matter of doubt, whether it would not be better for him to take the risk of suffering that inconvenience, and sow his ground with potato oats, which, in soil prepared for wheat, would hardly ever fail of producing him a crop, equal if not superior to the wheat, and he would have this advantage in addition, that his land would be left in a much cleaner, and less exhausted state, by the one than the other.

The early sown crops of wheat, in a general way, look extremely well, and the young clover and grass, sown last spring, have an appearance of furnishing an ample supply of green food for the ensuing summer; what a pity it is that the generality of the Irish farmers, cannot be prevailed on to lay down their lands with artificial seeds (which would always secure to them a good crop of grass the first year) instead of throwing out their fields in a state of poverty and nakedness, to be overrun with weeds, (the natural tenants of the soil) which seldom allow a tolerable crop of grass to succeed them in less than three or four years, to the great injury of the poor cattle who are turned in to seek their food upon it.

The prices of grain have not altered much since last report; but it is the opinion of some who are deemed competent judges of such things, that both wheat and oats will experience an advance.

Potatoes are at present plenty in the markets, and selling at a price not too high, in proportion to the rent of land.

The hint given in last month's report, to those who had raised their potatoe crops after the few nights of hard frost, appears now to have been a reasonable one, as the writer of this report has since seen large heaps examined, which had many frosted roots in them, and if suffered to remain, would have materially injured the whole.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

The quantity of foreign linen imported into Britain, may be estimated by the following account for 1810, of those imported into the port of London, as extracted from the London commercial list. The value affixed is on guess, and may be far wrong.

35,000	pieces of cambrick, supposed at £2.....	£70,000
3,000	.....lawn, (32 yards long).....4.....	12,000
52,000	.....linen, check.....3.....	156,000
14,000	Cwt. of linen yarn.....6.....	84,000
9,000	Hundred ells canvas, Hessens	
45,000	Do. German linen	
32,000	Do. Russian linen	

86,000 Do. at 1s. 6d. per ell, or £7 per Hundred, 615,000

£767,000

If the imports of Hull, Leith, and all other places should be equal to London, it would appear as if two millions sterling were paid for this article to other countries, an amount probably more than the export from Ireland. The greater part of these linens from the continent are shipped for the West Indies, after being warehoused, lying under bond in England; and a duty of 15 per cent, is, by the act of last year charged on exportation. Irish coarse linens are intitled to a bounty of three half-pence per yard, on exportation, which estimated at 12 per cent, and added to the duty of 15 per cent, makes a difference of 27 per cent, in favour of Irish linens.

A plan has been in agitation in this country, to petition the lords of trade to increase the duty on foreign linens to 50 per cent, and to prevent their being bonded, and warehoused in Britain. The policy of this measure may be well doubted. If the duty be raised too high, the re-action in raising the prices of our coarse linens is to be dreaded, while greater facility would be also given for smuggling foreign linens from the United States of North America, into the West Indian Islands; and Irish linens thus raised in price, would have to meet a severe competition with the smuggled linens in that market. In the memorial to the lords of trade, on this subject, offered for signature, some expressions against Bonaparte, as *the despot of Europ.*, were introduced. They are irrelevant in a memorial entirely relating to a matter of trade, and do great injury by keeping up that irritation against the French, which has already produced so much mischief to these islands. Bonaparte acts with vigour, as an enemy; this is to be expected. Abuse is an unmanly mode of attacking him, and only fosters our malignant passions. To enter on the question, who is pre-eminently the despot of Europe, would exceed our present bounds. One of the rival powers is powerful by land, and the other by sea: both exercise their power to the annoyance of the other; to the mutual injury of their respective countries; to the hurt of neutrals, and in violation of the principles of justice. The hands of our government are not sufficiently clean, to justify us in upbraiding Bonaparte for his system of tyranny.

Brown linens have considerably advanced in price, notwithstanding the dull sales in the white state. The flax turns out very coarse, and in consequence, the average value of linens in every market, is less than in former years. The approaching market in Dublin will probably be extremely dull, principally owing to a want of purchases for America, which in our unsettled relations with that country cannot be expected.

The following statement of the cotton trade in England, has been received from intelligent correspondents in Liverpool; and we trust will be acceptable to our readers, as giving a view of that trade in our sister country.

"Our future prospects are connected with many circumstances so changeable in their nature, and they will be governed so materially by political events, either unforeseen, or the effects of which we cannot fully estimate, that our conclusions will be necessarily involved in much uncertainty. A review, however, of the transactions of the last year, may afford some data, enabling us to ascertain how far the means of consumption may be proportioned to the extent of our supplies. Upon a reference to a statement of imports, it will be found, that the quantity of cotton imported into Liverpool, in 1810, is about 320,000 bags; being about 55,000 more than we received in the preceding year. Our arrivals from the United States in 1809, were 124,000 bags, and, in 1810, about 198,000, which is an increase in our supplies from thence, of 74,000 bags; but, on the other hand, our importations from all other places are 19,000 packages less than in 1809. Our stock, exclusive of what was held in the manufacturing towns, was, on the 1st of January, 1810, about 75,000 bags, and is now supposed to be not far short of 145,000, so that the addition which it has received, is greater than the excess of our import. Upon the supposition that these particulars are as accurate as the nature of the case will admit, it appears that the quantity taken out of this market, weekly, during the last year, may, upon an average, be about 4,500 to 5,000 bags, after making a deduction for the probable increase of the stock, in the possession of the dealers and spinners, above what they held on the 1st of January, 1810. We may further observe, that 568,000 packages have been entered at the various ports in Great Britain, in 1810, which exceeds the receipts of 1809, by 124,000 bags; and if we take the total stock, at the commencement of 1810, with the import of that year, the aggregate will be nearly 700,000 packages. Of this amount, it is calculated, that, during the same period, 300,000 bags have been manufactured, and about 30,000 exported, which leaves a total stock of 370,000 bags and serons, at the beginning of 1811. This quantity, after making a reasonable allowance for the comparative smallness of the Brazil and East India bags, is considered amply sufficient for twelve months' consumption; even if it should proceed in a ratio proportioned to that of 1810. From this statement it would appear that there is a prospect of a further accumulation of cotton in this country, unless our supplies should be diminished, or a more extensive demand be experienced for twist and manufactured goods. It is, however, to be apprehended, that the effects of the late commercial embarrassments, not soon to be surmounted, and the continued want of disposeable funds, (which many still appear, but too sensibly, to experience,) will, with the largeness of our stock, operate unfavourably upon our market. Should those sections of the non-intercourse law, prohibiting the introduction of our manufactures, take effect, and our exclusion from the continent of Europe be rigorously enforced, we shall then be deprived of two great sources of demand, while the supplies of the raw material, continuing free and unrestricted, will accumulate to an extent to which our own consumption, although confessedly great, and annually increasing, cannot be expected to bear an adequate proportion. This view of the subject, although discouraging, seems to be suggested by the existing state of affairs; but we would willingly hope that there is a better prospect before us, if the belligerents, returning to a sense of justice, and to the course which a sound and liberal policy should dictate, withdraw the restrictions so long imposed upon neutral commerce. The continental markets being, in that case, re-opened, the supplies which they would receive from the United States, would tend greatly to diminish the magnitude of our imports, while, it is possible, that the obstacles, now presented, to the admission of British manufactures, might, at the same time, be partially removed."

The orders in council, since the receipt of the president's proclamation, having become a subject of increased interest, a memorial was, in consequence, presented to ministers, describing the urgency of the case, and requesting an early disclosure of their intentions, as the continuance of our export trade to the United States must now depend upon the repeal of the measures in question. No reply has yet been received to this application, nor does it appear that any very sanguine hopes are now entertained, that our government, constituted as it is at present, will speedily abandon that system, which, as they have so long and so strenuously maintained, must

exist, until the grounds of retaliation are unequivocally removed. Our expectations, therefore, of an early and favourable change of measures, chiefly rest upon the prospect of a change of men and system.

In this state of uncertainty, intelligence of an important nature has been received in Paris papers of the 27th ult. From the annual *exposé* of the state of the French nation, it would appear, that the complete and virtual repeal of the Berlin and Milan decrees is still conditional, and will depend upon the precarious revocation of the orders in council, or upon the *the line of policy* which the American government may pursue. This important document is dated the 10th ult, and addressed to the Emperor, by M. Champagny, who, in adverting to the commercial policy of Great Britain, makes use of the following words, "*Your Majesty will persevere in your decrees, so long as England persists in her Orders in Council. You will oppose to the maritime blockade, the continental blockade; and to the plunder on the seas, the confiscation of English merchandise upon the continent. It is my duty to acquaint you, that there is henceforth no hope of bringing back your enemies to more moderate ideas, but by persevering in this system.*"

A letter has also been addressed to the president of the council of prizes, in which it is observed, that, in consequence of the American government having engaged to cause its rights to be respected, all cases pending, relative to the seizure of American vessels, subsequent to the 1st November, shall not be decided upon according to the principles of the Milan and Berlin decrees, but shall remain suspended, being, in the mean time, held under sequestration, till the 2d February next, when, in consequence of the United States having fulfilled their engagement of causing their rights to be respected, such vessels, with their cargoes, shall be restored to the rightful owners.

Exchange on London has through this month continued in Belfast, at $8\frac{1}{2}$ to 9 per cent; and in Dublin, at $8\frac{1}{4}$, 9, and $9\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. Discount on bank notes has lately risen in Belfast, to $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, in exchange for guineas.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From December 20, 1810, to January 20, 1811.

Unite, illustrious nymphs! your radiant powers,
Call from their long repose the vernal hours.
Wake with soft touch, with rosy hands unbind
The struggling pinions of the western wind:

In phalanx firm the fiend of frost assail;
Break his white towers, and pierce his crystal mail;
To Zembla's moon—bright coasts the tyrant bear,
And chain him howling to the northern bear.

Melt with warm breath the fragrant gums, that bind
The expanding foliage in its scaly rind;
And as in air the laughing leaflets play,
And turn their shining bosoms to the ray;
Nymphs! with sweet smile each opening flower invite
And on its damask eyelids pour the light.

DARWIN.

Among the various phenomena which nature is daily presenting, one which annually occurs, has been little noticed, this is the flowering of plants at particular seasons, and so fixed is the law by which they are bound, that human ingenuity has not yet been able to break this immutable decree; the snow-drop cannot be made to delay its flowering beyond the usual period for snow, without appearing by the shortest delay greatly injured, nor can the spring flowering Crocus be made to flower in the autumn, or the autumnal flowering ones in the spring, and it is only after many years of propagation, that plants from a country where they have been accustomed to an earlier spring, or those from the southern hemisphere, accommodate themselves to this climate.

Many valuable and beautiful plants might be introduced from the southern extremity of America, and Van Diemen's land; but although the climate is analogous to

our own, our intentions might be frustrated before they could accommodate themselves to a change of six months, in their period of foliation or fructification. It is plain that our country might derive important advantages, if the power of accelerating or retarding the vegetating principle could be discovered; but this like many other objects is probably only attainable by the attention of several observers being directed in the same course: it might be worth trying by those who have the convenience, if the progress of vegetation could be retarded with impunity by placing some roots in an ice-house, or accelerated by putting them in a hot-house, and this alternately; first placing, for instance, snowdrop roots in the hot-house, afterwards in the ice-house, and then in the hot-house again, and trying by this means to flower them two or three times in one year.

Jan. 9, Snow-drops (*Galanthus nivalis*) and Bell flowered Squills (*Scilla Campanulata*) appearing above ground.

11 Woodlark (*Alauda Arbores*) singing.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From December 20, 1810, to January 20, 1811.

As it often happens that while the snow falls and lies inland, the valley of Belfast is entirely free from it; can the wind blowing across the narrow sea between Scotland and Ireland be so much warmed by the passage as not to generate snow until it has passed 15 or 20 miles inland, and given out its maritime temperature? Can we conceive the Belfast lough to assist in diffusing this maritime warmth farther inland, when the wind comes in that direction, for it is often observed that the grounds on each side of this valley have a covering of snow, while the Belfast valley is not covered until long afterwards, or when a greater cold comes to prevail?

The same variable weather which has continued for such a length of time, yet marks this period.

December 21, 23, Wet and stormy, snow lying on the mountains, with, it has been said, much Thunder and Lightning.

24, Dark dry day.

25, Showers and squalls.

26, Dark dry day.

27, Showers and squalls.

28, 31, Dark dry weather, somewhat frosty.

January 1, Dark dry day.

2, Some snow showers.

3, Fine frosty, with breezes.

4, 8, Dark with some hail showers.

9, Mild day, rain at night.

10, Wet.

11, Dry day, wet stormy night

12, Showers in the morning.

13, Fine frost

14, Showery frosty morning,

15, Snow.

16, 18, Stormy with showers.

19, Fine, frost.

20, Wet and stormy.

On the 4th the roads about Lurgan, Dromore, and Comber, had much snow on them, while the ground even the highest hills as far as could be seen from Belfast was entirely free from it.

The Barometer has been during this period mostly above 29; on the 25th of December, it was however as low as 28.5, and on the 28th, it was as high as 30.5.

The almost stationary position of the Thermometer about 35°, has been astonishing while the Newspapers mention a prevalence of severe frost about London; on the 5th of January only it was as low as 31°, while on the 17th it was as high as 50°.

The S. Westerly wind has blown 13; N.W. 3; N.E. 5, and Easterly 6 times.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA;

FOR FEBRUARY, 1811.

On the first, The Moon passes the meridian at 49 min. past 6; the Pleiades being above her, and Aldebaran with the Hyades, to which she is directing her course, to the east of her. The third of the Bull, or nearest of the Hyades, she passes at ten minutes before five, on the following morning. Jupiter is now to the west of her, and the group around the planet and the Moon; consisting of the three first stars of the Ram, Menkar, with the small stars in the head of the Whale, the third of the River directly below her. Orion, Aldebaran, with the Hyades and the Pleiades, will for a long time fix our attention. At six she is fifty-four degrees, thirteen minutes, from the second of the Twins.

On the fifth, The Moon is on the meridian at 9 minutes past ten, having above her the two first stars of the Twins, and below her, the two 1st of the Little Dog. The great Dog is now to the west of the meridian, and with the group of the preceding night, adds lustre to the western hemisphere. At nine, the Moon is thirty-nine degrees, thirty two minutes, from the first of the Lion, and forty degrees, thirty-nine minutes, from Aldebaran.

On the tenth, she is perceived to have travelled through the barren space under the Lion, and she passes the nineteenth of this constellation at thirteen minutes past midnight, directing her course under the second, towards the seventh of the Virgin. Of course, during the night, we note to the east of her, the five stars in triangle of this constellation. At nine, she is fifty-seven degrees, two minutes, from the second of the Twins.

On the fifteenth, We perceive that she is directing her course towards Mars, who is on the other side of the two first stars of the Balance. The groupe formed by the first of the Virgin, the two first of the Balance, Mars, and the stars of the Scorpion, will fix the attention of the traveller.

On the twentieth, The Moon rises between Venus and the two first stars of the Goat, but nearest to the planet.

On the twenty-sixth, The Moon is seen in the evening under the group formed by the three first stars of the Ram, the Pleiades, Aldebaran, Jupiter, and Menkar, with the small stars in the head of the Whale.

Mercury is stationary on the 12th; at the beginning of the month he is too near the Sun to be discovered; but may be easily seen toward the latter end of the month. The Moon passes him on the 21st.

Venus is a morning star, and adorns the sky long before the break of day. Her motion is direct through 21° . In the middle of the month, we see her over the stars in the head of the Archer; and on the 19th she passes over the small double star called *D*, the star being 59 minutes south of her. The Moon passes her on the 19th.

Mars is on the meridian a few minutes before 6 on the morning of the 1st, and on the 25th, at 8 minutes past 5 in the morning; his motion is direct through 13° degrees. He passes Herschell on the 8th, but at a considerable distance, being $1\frac{1}{2}$ degree from him northward. The Moon passes him on the 16th.

Jupiter is on our meridian at 20 min. past 6 on the evening of the first, and at a quarter past 5 on the 19th. His motion is direct through $2\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, and he is in the middle of the pleasing group, formed by the three first stars of the Ram, Menkar, Aldebaran, and the Pleiades, being near the point where the lines drawn from the 1st of the Ram to Aldebaran, and from the Pleiades to Menkar cross each other. The Moon passes him on the 1st and again on the 28th.

Saturn is on our meridian at 36 min. past 8 on the morning of the first, and at half past 7 the 19th. His motion is direct through 2 and one-twentieth degrees. The Moon passes him on the 18th.

Herschell is on the meridian at 10 min. past 6 on the morning of the first, and at 51 min. past 4, on the 21st. His motion is direct through 11 minutes, being nearly in a line with that drawn from the 1st of the Balance to the 2d of the Scorpion; the Moon passes him on the 15th.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

1st SATELLITE.				2d SATELLITE.				3d SATELLITE.							
<i>Emissions.</i>															
DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.
1	9	23	36	3	17	47	46 E.	6	13	34	55 Im.	* 1st Sat. continued.			
3	3	52	35	7	4	42	20 Im.	6	15	51	3 E.				
4	22	21	29	7	7	6	7 E.	13	17	36	4 Im.				
6	16	50	29	10	18	0	37 Im.	13	19	53	4 E.				
8	11	19	24	10	20	24	31 E.	20	21	38	3 Im.				
10	5	48	23	14	7	18	47 Im.	20	23	55	57 E.	22	15	11	3
12	0	17	17	14	9	42	51 E.	28	1	39	29 Im.	24	9	40	4
13	18	46	17	17	20	36	56 Im.	28	3	58	14 E.	26	4	8	59
15	13	15	12	17	23	1	9 E.					27	22	37	59
17	7	44	13	21	9	55	4 Im.								
19	2	13	7	21	12	19	26 E.								
20	20	42	9	24	23	13	9 Im.								
				25	1	37	40 E.								
				28	12	31	12 Im.								
				28	14	55	50 E.								

Look to the right hand*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The Essay on Envy and Malice by Medicus; and the French verset, *Épître à M^{rs} Meitje*, cannot be inserted in our work.

ERRATA.

Page 27, col. 1, line 41, for Aughrim, read Boyne.

Vol. 5, Page 465, col. 1, line 20, for ancillary, read ancillary.

THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 31.]

FEBRUARY 28, 1811.

[Vol. 6.

COMMUNICATIONS ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

THE board of education have been successful in detecting many of the jobs practised in our Irish endowed schools, and it is much to be wished, that the discovery of abuses may be followed up by effectual remedies: but too often the public spirit elicited by parliamentary and other inquiries evaporates, and no good effects are ultimately or permanently produced. As yet we perceive no measures taken to remedy the abuses so justly exposed.

In the account in the 8th report on the Foundling Hospital, it is to be feared that the representation given of the members of the old board of that establishment, may be found to be common to other boards managing charitable institutions, that "except when offices of emolument were to be disposed of, it was difficult out of a board consisting of nearly two hundred members to procure the attendance of five once a quarter, to transact the ordinary business of the society."

The board of education in their 7th report, notice some of the defects attendant on the system of making the Hibernian school in the Phenix Park, a nursery to raise up recruits for the army. More might have been said to point out the hurtful tendencies of such a scheme,

but alas! in this age of war and increasing military system, the voice of peace and her wise counsels are little attended to. Europe in general, and these islands no less than the continent are in danger of relapsing into all the horrors and barbarizing effects of a military conscription; and of first censuring, and afterwards adopting the French practice in this respect.

The large surplus of income over expenditure in the funds of Erasmus Smith's schools, might be turned to great public benefit to promote education in this country, if the spirit of liberality sufficiently prevailed in the future distribution of it. But the exclusive spirit arising from the connexion of church and state interferes to cramp the good that might be done. In the state of this country, no system of education can be extensively useful, which is confined by any connexion with religious opinions.

The catholics will take alarm at any attempt to combine instruction in school learning, and doctrinal points of religion. They indeed ought not to be connected. Instruct the youth in useful branches of learning adapted to his situation in life, and leave the subject of religion to be settled between him and his parents, or rather trust the discovery of truth to the energies of his own mind in future life, while those energies have been sharpened by a good previous education.

It is therefore unpleasant to observe,

that to receive any benefits from Erasmus Smith's funds, the masters, and ushers of all schools aided from them must subscribe to the two first canons of the church of Ireland; In the act of last session referred to at page 17, of the last Belfast Magazine, the restriction is still further confirmed, by making it incumbent, to have the consent of the bishop of the diocese to any grant, under the circumstances of the act, for erecting the additional school-houses proposed to be built under the plan of extending the schools of Erasmus Smith. Such restrictions will essentially limit the benefits to be derived from this fund, and it is painful to observe that this act which was introduced into parliament under the auspices of the Primate, tends to continue restrictions, which are illiberal, and which are likely to defeat the full effects of a plan calculated in other respects to do so much good.

This circumstance with many others of a similar nature, confirms the sentiment, that the temper of the times as manifested in the present system of legislation will not permit us to hope at present for the establishment of a national system of education on liberal principles. To effect the important advantages of education, the exertions of individuals must be persevered in, unaided by assistance from the national purse, which would only be granted on a sacrifice of independence, by submitting to the dominancy of the church establishment, and by increasing the patronage and influence of the executive government.

K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

HAVING lately had an opportunity of seeing a parcel of Ame-

rican newspapers, I was struck with some statements in the following paper, which appeared to me to be just. If they teach us duly to appreciate the advantages of a free government, and prove the absurdity of an overweening confidence in all which belong to ourselves, merely because they are our own, they may be of service in your pages. Two great errors are often combined, to think too highly of ourselves, and too meanly of our neighbours. It appears to be the prevailing fashion, unjustly and unreasonably, to despise America. In the following essay justice is done to their institutions, without misrepresenting the tendency of the manners, laws, and institutions of the old country. If we ever grow wiser, we must be willing to see our errors. Neither individuals nor nations advance in knowledge without cherishing a disposition to search out and acknowledge their defects.

A READER.

CONTRAST BETWEEN BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES OF NORTH AMERICA.

(Extracted from the National Intelligencer, published at Washington.)

WHAT then are the peculiar causes of this unrivalled felicity?

We confidently answer, the pursuit of a political course in most respects directly the reverse of that pursued by the nations of the old world.

In those nations governments are usurpations on public opinion; here they are direct emanations from it.

With them the great end of government is to controul the public will; here its great end is to carry it into effect.

In the old world government is the monopoly of a few, by means of which corruption and fraud riot in extravagance, on the blood and la-

bour of the people; *here* it is the common property of all, deriving its existence from the will of the whole nation, and dispensing its blessings impartially among all.

In the old world government is the great source of crime; *here* it is its most effectual restraint.

In the old world government is maintained by force; *here* it is supported by affection.

Hence, in the old world gigantic navies and vast standing armies are indispensable; while *here* they are almost entirely unnecessary, and injurious, instead of beneficial to the popularity and energy of those in power.

Hence, too, while in the old world war is the constant aim and occupation, peace is *here* interwoven with our wishes and interests.

In the old world, religion is the effect of coercion and hypocrisy, and is only maintained by oppressive taxes: while *here* it is the free emanation of the conscience, is sincere, and is supported by voluntary contribution.

In the old world, the pursuits of individuals are restrained by unjust and pernicious regulations, and iniquitous monopolies; *here* every man is permitted to employ his time, his talents and his money in the occupation most congenial to his own mind.

After this rapid view of the discordancy between our principles and conduct, and those of the nations of Europe, it is natural to enquire into the points of resemblance.

This may enable us to decide whether the system which we have adopted is merely a modification in its details of the systems practised in the old world, or whether it is not a system fundamentally different.

This is an important enquiry. It is not merely a speculation amusing to the philosopher in his closet; its

decision necessarily leads to practical effects of the utmost importance. On it will depend the propriety, even safety, of consulting foreign precedents, and of being guided, in doubtful cases, by the experience of foreign nations.

If our system be in a higher degree homogeneous with, than discordant from the systems of foreign powers, we may perhaps safely be guided by the course they have pursued; but if, on the contrary, for one point of resemblance there be ten of hostility, our great duty must be, in doubtful cases, to avoid an example so pregnant with ruin.

We have shown that in the political structure of our governments, there is scarcely any coincidence; that, in fact, the fundamental principles of the one are in absolute and direct hostility to the other.

We have likewise shown that our condition is equally different from the condition of the nations of Europe.

So far, then, as these two important considerations go, the inference is irresistible, and we must pronounce the experience of the old world only worthy of our attention as a beacon to guard us against error and misery.

The only branch of enquiry that remains for consideration, is how far our system resembles the foreign system in the security it establishes for the maintenance of *civil rights*.

These, we are told, are the great ends of government, and that the government that secures them must be good; and *here* we are referred to England. Of that country it is the boast, that the life, personal liberty, property, and good name of her citizens are defended with unimpeachable justice. The *common law* is vaunted as their great guardian; and, inasmuch as we have

naturalised it, we are said to have adopted a system similar to that of Britain.

Let us examine this subject concisely in detail. That the jurisprudence of England has deservedly ranked her high among her sister nations of Europe, is indisputable. That it cherishes fewer seeds of slavery, and that it pays more respect to the natural rights of man than any other system of contemporaneous origin will not be denied. When, therefore, we look back upon the lot of the old world, we behold with delight the comparatively bright displays of justice, liberty, and humanity, made in that distinguished island; and we see her towering infinitely above her neighbours.

But let us not be infatuated by this contrast. The present enquiry is not into the relative condition of the British and French nations, or into the relative advantages of their systems of government. It is confined entirely to Great Britain and the United States. It may be, that Britain will, on this comparison, sink as low, as in the other she rose high.

It is true that we have naturalised the common law of England; but it is equally true that this common law has been so modified by our own statutory law, that a marked difference exists between the two systems.

In England the life of the subject is said to be secure against unjust invasion. It is secured by independent judges, and an impartial jury. Let this be granted, for the sake of argument; still the existing laws may be, and in fact are devised in such a way as awfully to jeopardize human life. How many crimes in the British code, compared to the American, are capital; and what a prodigal forfeiture of life constantly takes place for light and trivial

offences! Besides, can the lives of subjects be secure when it is in the power of an irresponsible government, whenever it pleases, to hurry the nation into war, and to consign its subjects to distant and dangerous expeditions, where the chance of surviving is very inconsiderable? And where is the difference to the wretched victim, whether he dies in the field of battle, or in an hospital, at the call of an ambitious government, or on a scaffold in expiation of his offences? When too we consider that these offences are, for the greater part, the offspring of bad government, and the wretched penury to which thousands are thereby reduced, the government becomes the criminal instead of the nominal offender, and the murder or theft for which the latter forfeits his life, is in fact the act of the former.

How opposite to this is our situation? Capital punishments are rare; atrocious offences almost equally so; and war, with all its horrors, known only as a theme of execration.

If we view the influence of the common law of England on personal liberty, we shall find it equally different from our system. There a sentiment of avarice appears to have gained so complete an ascendancy, that the least invasion of property produces a sacrifice of liberty, if not life. Allusion is not here meant exclusively to frauds which ought in every well regulated society to be severely punished; but to those misfortunes in business which often make an honest man the debtor of another. In England, a jail is his lot—there he languishes for years—perhaps he dies. How different the lot of misfortune in the United States. The law, on a surrender of his effects, screens the person of the debtor from confinement—He begins a new career—The smiles of

prosperity again irradiate his path. He soon retrieves the errors of indiscretion or confidence, and rises to respectability, perhaps distinction.

But, the advocates of the British system, driven from those strong holds, fly to their fortress. Property, say they, is in England better protected than in any other country on earth. Whatever guards you have formed around it, you have borrowed from us. But in this vivid enlogium we behold the illusion of days that are past! There are two circumstances that most strikingly contrast the situation of the United States and England in this respect. The first relates to the relative expenses of conducting law suits, the second to the relative taxes imposed on property, whose value, it is evident, must materially depend on these circumstances. Now under the boasted common law of England a debt cannot be recovered, without a previous delay of several years, or without the payment of extravagant fees to lawyers; and if the controversy relate to landed property, a life may be spent before the decision of the suit. Can that property be said to be secure, which is exposed to such invasions, whereby its rightful owner may be kept out of its enjoyment for his whole life? Is it not the inevitable tendency of such a system to place the scales of justice exclusively in the hands of the rich, who if they are not invested with the power of turning the beam, are clothed with the equally dangerous prerogative of keeping it in equilibrio as long as they please; thereby unjustly preserving in their own hands the property of others.

With regard to taxes, it may be safely affirmed, that the assessment in England is ten times as high as in the United States.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE USE OF TRANSLATIONS;
APPLIED TO PRECEPTORS AND PUPILS.

IF not partial to my religion and country, I would be inclined to think that in the British dominions, the learned languages are taught on plans the most rational, and withal by persons having a greater regard to the cause of christianity and truth, and of instilling into the mind the principles of true philosophy, than in most other places in Europe. But even here the views of the community are not combined, nor are they willing they should be established by the same common laws, as those of individuals. For example, in the case now before us, some are disposed to admit and encourage the constant use of translations as a help for making proficiency in the language to which the attention of their pupils is directed; others, again, wish to discard such a practice, or at the farthest, to use it only on certain occasions. Hence a sort of extravagance clearly prevails on both sides, which it is my intention to exhibit. But the only satisfactory method I can have recourse to in performing this is, by examining the sentiments of a translator; and endeavouring to point out their conformity or non-conformity to the promotion of classical learning. The individual, then, whom I chose for this purpose is Mr. John Clarke,* (once master of the public grammar school at Hull) who has been of infinite service in

* The reason, which induced me to select Mr. Clarke is, that he has written a professed treatise on the advantages of translations. Wherefore, the observations made on their use in the Latin tongue, may also apply to those in the Greek, &c.

rendering the meaning of several Roman authors clear and intelligible.

When boys set forward in the reading of authors, says he, there are but three several methods for them to proceed in: "First, by the help of a master to construe their lessons to them. Secondly, by the help of a dictionary; or, Thirdly, by that of literal translations."

In considering the first of these forms, he asserts, that very few of our schools are provided with any more than two masters; "and therefore, in that case it is impossible for a *man* that has three or four classes to take care of, to give that attendance to them all, as to keep them employed a third part of the time they have to spend in the school." This he admits as plain and undeniable. But perhaps it may be suggested, that in the time in which he lived, (though not remote) schools for the instruction of youth were not so numerous as they are at present; and, therefore, it is founded on some degree of probability, that the teachers appointed for their respective offices were quite inconsiderable in comparison of the number of pupils in each class.

But passing over this consideration, he proceeds to the second method, by which a scholar may learn the language, that is, by "the help of a dictionary." Now he says, "as to the use of a dictionary to understand the authors they read, that way of proceeding is still more improper than the former. You may as reasonably set boys of eleven or twelve years of age to build a church, as to get their lessons by a dictionary. For in the first place, the looking for their words will make a miserable waste of their time; and, in the next place, considering which of the various significations most words have, may be

for their purpose, will occasion the consumption of as much more; and what is still worse, the time spent in both, will be all lost to them, for want of sense to distinguish betwixt what is proper for their purpose, and what is otherwise."

It may be laid down as an universal axiom, that there are difficulties both real and supposed, attending every occupation and pursuit in life, whether it be literary or mechanical. Even those things which at first sight seem obvious, or at least requiring but little assiduity appear after some examination troublesome, and abstract.

Most young persons are found to judge of matters relating to classical improvement, as completely above their most diligent researches.—For example, in learning the rudiments of Latin grammar, when interpreted in their mother-tongue, sometimes from want of industry and perseverance, the neglect of masters, or their own stupidity, they are frequently compelled to relinquish their plan, thinking that they might as well attempt to form a straight and regular path through an extensive desert, as to prosecute their study with any advantage. The same obstacles frequently present themselves in the way of painting, architecture, navigation, and various other employments, most of which require great pains, and perseverance before the individuals who would study them can ever become adepts.

But while, from such postulate, Mr. Clarke says that it is as practicable for boys of eleven or twelve years of age to construct an edifice as to prepare their lessons by a dictionary, a question naturally arises, (and is assuredly one which he had not in contemplation) namely, What is the general use or design of a dictionary? Now if by a dictionary

ly we are to understand a nomenclature, or form of words arranged in alphabetical order, with the signification of each term or phrase, and to which recourse is to be made for understanding the language, we are led to infer that such a definition is quite inconsistent with our author's sentiments; for by him it would appear that a dictionary is of no other utility but to keep it dormant, even when boys are entering upon their studies, or when they are pretty far advanced in them.

With all due deference to our author's known abilities and good sense, it might be a sort of crime to advance that he prohibited the use of dictionaries; but what appears highly objectionable on his part, and which I think, is directly opposite to the improvement of youth in this department, is that he is too much disposed to recommend the study and perusal of literal translations in preference to that of a dictionary. But it can never be disputed by any proficient in the Latin language that a dictionary is of the greatest importance; for without constant application be made to it, all rule and instruction will be of little avail; besides, an idea naturally strikes the mind, that if, in order to prepare their lessons, boys were not allowed the use of dictionaries, how comes it to pass that translators could convey to the mind of the readers in a just, clear, and elegant manner, the true sense or thoughts of those *authors* which were never translated before? When an Englishman for instance, translates a book from the Latin into his own tongue, can it ever be supposed that he acquired that general stock of knowledge from the English version of other books, which could direct him in his attempt, without being forced to refer to the dictionary of the original language? Or,

are we to entertain the opinion that the grammar, which is unquestionably the basis of the language, can ever furnish a pupil beginning to construe an author (as Cordery's *Colloquia*, *Selectæ Sententiæ*, *Æsop's Fables*) with the explanation of each word or phrase; but it is plain, that this is not the design of grammar: this alone then is the office of a dictionary. Such an insinuation of Mr. Clarke is so selfish and futile, that it scarcely requires any attention to confute it.

But even here our author does not seem satisfied to confine his extravagance in recommending translations: he thinks the looking for words in a dictionary, the difficulties attending a proper selection of those that will best suit the passage, and there being a deficiency of sense in juvenile minds to discriminate what is right from what is wrong, renders it indispensably necessary to fly to those means, which will "save such a miserable waste of their time." Not to delay on these points, it must be confessed (and is a truth I believe, experienced by all mankind, even by the most brilliant geniuses) that boys not above 13 or 14 years of age, are hardly endowed with that strength and penetration of intellect as to enable them to understand clearly the books they are reading. Many passages indeed, of the classical writers are obscure and difficult of interpretation, which arises either from erroneous editions, inaccurate annotations, or the ill advised practice of masters and guardians of hurrying on too rapidly those intrusted to their care, before they attain to a competent knowledge of the elementary parts of the language. This last is, indeed, an error but little regarded at the present day. I have strong reason to believe, that a variety of schoolmasters, (principally by the insti-

gations and discontent of parents who have their children with them,) being led to imagine that they cannot finish their course too soon, hasten their pupils from one book to another, in such a manner, that, in fact, they commence Virgil and Horace without even superficially understanding the construction or arrangement of sentences, the rules of prosody, the geographical situations of the places of which they are reading, or the history and mythology of the individuals recorded, much less, being grounded in them. Wonderful! They never reflect, that if their children, in the first place, were properly versed in the grammar, (which is of all considerations the most essential for this study), and afterwards made to understand well one or two of the subsequent books, their transition through the language will become more easy and inviting; and what is still more, they will soon gain an ascendancy over those numerous and perplexed occurrences, which justly strike terror into such unreflecting minds. This is solely attained by the help of a dictionary, and the attention of a preceptor in pointing out the words, and representing in their proper colours the several passages, which to them appear dark and inexplicable.—To assert then that the looking for words in a dictionary creates a superfluous waste of time, is as ridiculous as it would be for an accomptant to transcribe his questions and answer out of a key of Arithmetic, without endeavouring to perform the operations, or even giving himself the trouble of examining their import for such a procedure.

But, in order to stamp a value upon the use of translations, and depreciate that of dictionaries, our author says again, that “the best dictionaries will frequently fail them, that is, they will not furnish them

with such words as will serve their turn, and with which they ought to be served. Besides, supposing our dictionaries were no ways deficient, and young lads between the age of ten and fourteen had all understanding enough to make a proper use of them; yet by what methods can they unravel the unnatural, awkward, perplexed order of words in the Latin tongue?”

Now by far the greater, if not the whole amount of these assertions is altogether founded on sinister and self-interested motives, and consequently in no degree, tend to the extension or encouragement of this justly celebrated language.—Is our author about to innovate in that track which never was beaten before? Does he really wish to perform things which are utterly impossible? Are our dictionaries then to be entirely extirpated, never more to be used? Or, can translations, however correct they may be, now be substituted in the place of dictionaries? As well might we attempt to inclose an ocean within certain limits, or erect a tower, “whose top might reach unto heaven,” as to suppose that translations, if once adopted, could ever faithfully answer the design of dictionaries. It would be no less marvellous.—But to confute this idea of Mr. Clarke’s, concerning the imperfection of dictionaries, I observe they are, since his time, in general much improved; and that probably the number of words in the Latin language, which are not to be found in them at present, are very inconsiderable in impeding a beginners progress. For instance, compounded words, as *Adstipulator*, *advolo*, *subcreasco*, with a multiplicity of others, are not inserted*; but in order to com-

* Besides some verbs, and names of places, there are appellations of men as

pete for this defect; if any it is, we are to throw away the prepositions, and look for the principal verbs, which ultimately answers the purpose required. In Cæsar's Commentaries there are some words of Gallic origin, which though in Latin, no English signification can be found for them: such as *Bavaria*, with which the French *Bavie* corresponds. Also, in Erasmus's Colloquies, of *Walsinghamica*, Walsingham, and several shires in England, which are not Latin, but English terms.

But he proceeds farther, and asks, by what means must boys "unravel that unnatural, awkward, perplexed order of words in the Latin tongue?"—I may reasonably ask the followers of Mr. Clarke, that if the ordering of words in speech be attended with such insuperable difficulty, what is the use of Syntax or construction? Here we are taught the coincidence or right dispositions of words in a sentence;—how to convey our thoughts unto others;—to know what changes can be made upon them when clothed in language; to reduce the rules to practice, and make them answer the purposes for which they are intended. Wherefore, Mr. Ruddiman justly observes, that to the attainment of this end there are two things absolutely necessary, viz—"1. That in speech we dispose and frame our words according to the laws and rules established among these whose language we speak. 2. That in like manner we know what is spoken and written, and be able to explain it in due order, and resolve it into the several parts of which it is made up."

Eutrapelus, *Orgetorix*, *Dumnorix*, and others too tedious to be mentioned; but upon examination most of them will be found in doctor Lempriere's Classical Dictionary.

But, without either learning to speak the language, or to understand it when spoken by others, it may be perhaps deemed sufficient for them (first of all) to know in authors the manner in which the words are placed, and the rules requisite for such a plan. Now can this be ever attained without being perfectly grounded in Syntax?—Are we to suppose that such knowledge will come of its own accord, without making application for it? As well might a wounded soldier expect a leg or an arm to be cut off, without enduring the pain of the chirurgical operation.

Having thus attempted to answer some of the objections advanced by Mr. Clarke, against the use of dictionaries, I shall just take notice of another objection, which, if properly solved, may serve to remove some considerable difficulties attending the proper application of them. He says it is "sometimes alleged, that the getting their lessons by a dictionary fixes the meaning of words better in the memory of boys, than the use of translations." To this he answers, "that what is alleged, supposes it possible for young boys to get their lessons by the help of a dictionary;" which he thinks, he has shown is not the case. "But let us suppose it practicable," adds he, "and upon the supposition examine the allegation brought to show the way of doing the business by dictionary, preferable to the use of literal translations. Does the tossing over the leaves of a dictionary, in order to find a word, contribute to fix the meaning of it, when found, in the memory? If so, the longer boys are in finding a word, that is, the longer they are e'er they come at the sense of the word, the better they will remember it; which is as much as to say, that the less business they do,

the greater progress they will make, and the faster they will proceed.

But in whatever degree these observations may at first sight wear a garb of plausibility; I look upon it as a truth as self-evident as any demonstration in mathematics, that translations how literal soever they may be, never tend to impress the mind with a permanent conviction. The impression they make is like that made by a seal upon wax, or the print of a human foot upon sand, which is easily effaced by the first approaching object, or by the corroding hand of time, after which not even the slightest vestige presents itself to the view. This is indeed, no hypothesis nor ideal picture; for I know from actual experience that when translations are first put into the hands of pupils, it comes to pass by a too strict attention to them, and consequently their neglecting the other significations which words may have in the dictionary, that what knowledge they have acquired in that particular study is almost totally lost, not only in the space of two or three years, but in the trifling interval of a few succeeding months. But as nothing is more real and obvious than experiment, let an instructor teach his pupils several Latin books, by permitting him to refer to literal translations, is it not ten to one that, though he may construe his lesson in an easy and fluent manner (which would be monstrous for him not to do) the most of this is obliterated from his mind before the ensuing repetition, unless he has recourse to the same hurtful means? Wherefore, when a boy begins to prepare his task by the help of a dictionary and master, were he to understand only a few lines, I can assure him that such a process is of more advantage than if he were to read over two or three hundred lines by that of trans-

lations; whilst, at same time, were he to abide by the precepts of Mr. Clarke, his time is converted to the worst of purposes, and his mind is not impressed with what may be styled a lasting and radical knowledge of the language.

Methinks here an objector says, that it is my intention to annihilate translations. This, I candidly acknowledge, is not my aim. But if there be a baneful extreme on any side, it must certainly be that of attending to them in lieu of dictionaries. The former may, indeed, be justly likened to a man of disordered constitution, moderately applying medicine, which serves to remedy his disease; and the latter, on the other hand, to medicine immoderately applied, which may for ever ruin his health, if not bring him to an untimely end.

Nobody of common sense, I presume, will be disposed to deny the use of translations for the convenience of masters, seeing the business is performed with more ease and dispatch, and as few enter into such a capacity without having previously acquired a pretty general knowledge of the mode of construction and parsing. Even boys who have advanced to Sallust and Ovid might with propriety consult translations, but on no other condition, than that of their having ascertained the sense of their authors by the assistance of a dictionary, and their tutor for the time preceding. By so doing, their task instead of a burden will become a pleasure to them; by being thus gratified, they will consider the weight of the obligation conferred upon them, and will not forsake the one, by paying a too strict attention to the other. Let me then offer this grateful admonition to those concerned in the acquisition of the languages, that the longer they keep from the use of

translations, the sooner will they become conversant with the grand object of their studies.

Belfast.

S. S.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

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TENTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN IRELAND.

To his Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. Lord Lieutenant general, and general governor of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

WE the undersigned Commissioners, appointed for enquiring into the several funds and revenues granted for the purposes of Education, and into the state and condition of all schools upon public or charitable foundations, in Ireland, in pursuance of the powers vested in us, beg leave to lay before your Grace, our report upon the HIBERNIAN MARINE School in Dublin, for maintaining, educating, and apprenticing the orphans and children of decayed seamen in the royal navy and merchants' service.

The Hibernian Marine Society was incorporated by a charter of his present Majesty, in the year 1775, on the petition of the lord mayor, archbishop of Dublin, and other noblemen and gentlemen of the city of Dublin, members of a marine society associated for the support, education, and fitting for sea the orphans and children of seafaring men only—setting forth, that the said society had, by voluntary subscriptions and benefactions, been enabled to establish a nursery and school for the maintainance and instruction of the children of seamen, who had perished or been disabled in his Majesty's or the merchants' service; and that they had been further enabled by the bounty of parliament

to build a house in the city of Dublin, near the sea, capable of receiving two hundred children and upwards, when their funds should admit of it.

The charter of the society (a copy of which, with the bye-laws, is herewith submitted to your grace) directs that the corporation shall be intituled, "The Hibernian Marine Society in Dublin, for maintaining, educating, and apprenticing the orphans and children of decayed seamen in the royal navy and merchants' service;" and that the lord lieutenant, the lord-primate, the lord-chancellor, the archbishop of Dublin, and other officers of church and state for the time being, and certain noblemen and gentlemen by name, with others to be elected from time to time, shall be members of the said society, which it empowers to purchase and hold lands to the value of two thousand pounds per annum, and to erect nurseries and schools in other parts of Ireland.—It directs four general quarterly meetings to be held yearly, at one of which a president, seven vice-presidents, two secretaries, a treasurer, register, and other necessary officers, shall be annually elected from the members of the society, and sworn into office by the president, one of the vice-presidents, or two other members; and also a committee of fifteen for carrying into execution the rules and orders of the corporation, who shall meet on the first monday in every month, or oftener if necessary. It further directs, that none but children of deceased, reduced, or decayed seamen in the royal or merchants' service, or that had been so, shall be received into any nursery or school of the corporation. By the bye-laws of the society (which they are empowered to make by the charter) none of the members of the corporation

(or governors, as they are otherwise called), whether by charter or election, can accept of any office under the society with a salary, except that of register. The present sur-geon to the society is also excepted; having been a governor when elected to that office, before the bye-law was enacted.

The funds of this society consist in, first, a capital amounting on the last return to ten thousand five hundred and nineteen pounds, nine shillings, and three halfpence, of which seven thousand one hundred and sixty-six pounds, thirteen shillings, and four pence, is in bank stock, eight hundred pounds in the three and a half per cents, and sixteen hundred and seven pounds, eight shillings and seven pence on personal security.

	£.	s.	d.
The dividend on their bank stock last year was	537	10	-
On £800 in the 3½ per cents.	28	-	-
Interest on £1,607 8s. 7d. at six per cent.	96	9	-
2dly, in rents of lands and houses	175	16	-
3dly, in annual subscriptions about	100	-	-
	£937	15	-

And 4thly, in parliamentary grants.

These last have varied according to the exigencies of the society from seven hundred and fifty to two thousand pounds, till the last year, when in consequence of alterations and improvements then executing in the house, the sum of two thousand eight hundred and ninety-six pounds was granted, and this year the grant has been enlarged to three thousand five hundred and twenty-three pounds nett. According to the return of the register, the expenditure last year was five thousand eight hundred and thirty-two pounds, nine shillings, and eleven pence halfpenny. The total income stated by the

register was three thousand nine hundred and eighty-one pounds fifteen shillings and seven pence halfpenny; and the excess of expenditure, one thousand eight hundred and fifty pounds, fourteen shillings, and four pence.

This was partly provided for by the sale of government securities to the amount of four thousand three hundred and fifty pounds (on which there is stated to have been a loss of thirty nine pounds, sixteen shillings, and five pence), and to which the governors were induced for the purpose of increasing their bank stock, which, on the grant of a new charter to the bank, they were allowed as original subscribers to purchase at one hundred and twenty-five per cent. The last instalment of their additional subscription was due on the 24th June last, and has been paid out of the parliamentary grant of this year. The funds are in some years assisted by a benefaction from the Onsl Galley of twenty guineas, and by a bonus on bank stock, which in the year 1807 amounted to one hundred and seven pounds, ten shillings. In future, however the latter is not expected, but in lieu of it an increase of the annual dividend.

The house is situated on Roger-son's-quay, and is separated from the street by a court-yard, with a wall and iron gate.

It is a plain substantial building, seventy-two feet by forty-six, with two wings, each thirty feet in front by sixty feet in depth, whose fronts range with the rear wall of the house, and which include, therefore an area to the rear of seventy feet by sixty. The part of this area next the house is on the level of the street, and forms a handsome terrace, from which there is a descent by a flight of steps to the other part, which is on the level of the basement story and play-ground. The house contains apartments for the chaplain

(who is allowed the use of the board room), the master, usher, and house-keeper, two dormitories of about forty-eight feet by eighteen, two of about twenty-five by twenty-two, and one of twenty-five by seven and a half, with an infirmary twenty-five by twenty-two.

It is stated in the petition for the charter, to be capable of accommodating two hundred boys. In that statement, probably the infirmary, and perhaps one or two rooms now occupied by the officers, were considered as dormitories. Those used as such at present, would not contain more than about one hundred and sixty, and for this purpose the beds must be (as in fact they are) quite close to each other. But many at present are unoccupied, as there are only one hundred and ten boys in the house. The infirmary is inconveniently situated, in the very center of the house, though there is an access to it by a stair case, which does not communicate with the dormitories, but being confined on three sides it cannot be aired or ventilated as it ought, particularly for convalescents, for whom therefore the governors have lately taken a small house in the country, near two miles distant, to which the boys are removed from the infirmary, as soon as they are sufficiently recovered to be capable of it. The situation of the house itself, near the river on a low ground, and (in winter at least) in a damp and foggy atmosphere, rendered this measure still more necessary. It has been some time in the contemplation of the governors to erect an infirmary at the east end of the house in front of the east wing; and a building corresponding to it at the other end, for an apartment for the usher, which would enlarge the accommodations of the house to the full establishment of two hundred boys; this, though a very desirable

measure, and for which there can be little doubt of parliamentary aid being obtained, we are sorry to observe is not likely to be carried into execution, partly from a disagreement among the acting governors, and partly from the want of sufficient energy and activity. The wings of the building contain the chapel and school-room, each fifty-one feet by twenty-six. The chapel is neatly fitted up, and has a large fire-place at one end, under it are the laundry and other offices, and under the school-room is the ordinary mess-room, of the same dimensions with it. The whole of the buildings are in good repair, and the dormitories and other rooms in the house appear to be kept clean and well aired. The play ground is an area behind the house of about seventy yards square. It appears to be insufficiently inclosed, the wall on the south side being too low; and there is reason to believe, that many of the elopements which have taken place, were effected by the boys escaping over it.

By a bye-law of the governors no boys are to be admitted under the age of nine years, unless from their size or strength they are deemed proper at eight; they are previously examined and certified by the surgeon to be of sound health and constitution. Security of ten pounds is given by some friend of each boy before admission for his conduct and demeanour, and of late the condition of not eloping has been introduced into it. This was occasioned by the great number of elopements in the last ten or twelve years; the average for that period has been twelve in a year, and in one year they amounted to thirty; in the two last years above forty have eloped; the practice is facilitated partly by the circumstance just mentioned of the insufficient inclosure of the play ground, and

partly by one of the boys being stationed at the gate as Porter, who has therefore the opportunity either of eloping himself or permitting and assisting others. If detected in the latter, he is severely punished, but this is not found sufficient to deter them, and it is still less to be expected that, even where there is no disposition to it, a boy eleven or twelve years old will be so vigilant in attending to his post, as not to afford occasions to others to escape. On this subject, we cannot help saying, there appears to have been great want of attention in the governors, who might, we think, and ought long since to have adopted effectual measures for putting a stop to this most injurious and disgraceful practice. It was stated to us by the chaplain, that twenty eloped at one time, in consequence of a lieutenant of the navy having come to the school the day before to inspect the boys and select such as were fit to serve on board a man of war; other occasions of elopements are stated to be the intercourse allowed between the boys and their friends, and their being frequently sent out with summonses and on other messages. We have thought it our duty to make a representation to the governors on this and another subject, which will be noticed hereafter in this report.

Applications for admission are made by printed certificates, signed by masters of ships and housekeepers of the parish in which the boys reside, one of whom attends to swear, if required, that they are the sons of seamen. They are clothed on their admission in a new dress, resembling that of the profession to which they are destined; the course of instruction is reading, writing, arithmetic, and navigation; at a proper age they are apprenticed usually to masters of merchants' vessels, who take them without any

fee; some are occasionally sent on board the navy; in the last ten years only forty-six have been thus disposed of; in the same period one hundred and fifty-eight have been apprenticed, and the admissions in that time have been four hundred and twenty-eight. There are at present, as we have stated, one hundred and ten boys in the school, a smaller number than has been for the last three or four years; and in the present state of the school, with respect to instruction, it is not desirable that more should be admitted. There is no master at present, nor has been since January last, when the late master was dismissed, as was stated to us by the chaplain, for misconduct in suffering boys to be sent on board the navy before they were properly qualified; his son, who was the usher, was dismissed at the same time on the same account. A person was appointed to succeed the latter in the following month, under whose single care the instruction of the boys in reading, writing, and cyphering has since continued; he is stated by the chaplain to be a well-behaved man but not to understand navigation; on our further and personal examination, it appears that he had never been employed in teaching before. He pays, however, the closest attention to his duty, which he discharges to the best of his ability, and is in many respects a most useful officer; he keeps the boys in the greatest order, and of late the number of elopements has decreased, in consequence, as we believe, of his extreme vigilance and attention; but in the article of instruction the school is in a most deplorable state. If the usher were ever so well qualified he could not singly teach so great a number, even in reading alone, especially as the practice of employing monitors has not been

introduced, nor indeed are any of the boys, as far as we can learn, capable of acting in that capacity. The delay in the appointment of a master seems very inexcusable; after some time, indeed, an advertisement was inserted in the papers announcing the vacancy and inviting applications, and a day was at last fixed for holding the election, viz. Saturday the 26th August; a number of candidates accordingly appeared on that day, and seventeen governors attended the board, but it was then discovered, that in consequence of some omission in point of form, the election could not take place, and was therefore adjourned till the first Monday in November, the school will then have been ten months without a master. It had been resolved it seems at a former meeting, that the appointments of the master should henceforth be increased in the article of salary to one hundred pounds per annum, from thirty-five pounds, and to withdraw certain allowances he had formerly enjoyed, and this resolution was required by the bye-laws to be proposed at one quarterly meeting previously to its being finally adopted at a subsequent one; this had been omitted before the last quarterly meeting in August, and the measure could not therefore take place till the next day in November; but it seems obvious that the election might have been made notwithstanding, and the master given to understand that his appointment, though not then regularly sanctioned would be so at the next meeting, and should commence from the day of his election. Several candidates have come to Dublin from different quarters, and it is much to be apprehended that from disgust at their disappointment they may not offer themselves a second time, and thus the advantage of selection

may be in a great measure forfeited: we have reason to believe that much difference of opinion among the governors prevailed on this as on other occasions, and we are sorry to be obliged to state, that partly from this circumstance and partly from the small number of acting governors who had usually attended to the concerns of the institution, and who, though men of unimpeached integrity and sincerely attached to its interests, appear not to have possessed sufficient energy or vigour for its proper management and direction, the government of the Society appears for some time to have been in many instances defective and inefficient: it has been stated to us that on some occasions of late the monthly meetings of the committee of fifteen have been adjourned for want of a sufficient number to make a board, though the state of the school during the vacancy of the mastership required a closer attention and more frequent inspection than ordinary; it does not appear that in that period the chaplain has been called on to give any assistance to the usher in the instruction of the boys, or any other attendance in the school than his general duty required at other times. Indeed the duties of another kind imposed on the chaplain appear to be wholly incompatible with the due discharge of those which properly belong to his office, and this we consider as another instance of injudicious management in the governors; exclusive of his care of the chapel and the performance of divine service on Sundays, he is very properly required to give attendance at the opening of the school in the morning, to instruct the boys in reading the morning prayers, psalms, and lessons of the day, to cause them to perform in turns the evening service, and to attend the school

occasionally at other times, to note the attendance of the master and usher, and to catechise the children, which includes their instruction in the principles of morality and religion; in addition to these duties he is also required to superintend the conduct of the housekeeper and other servants of the house, and report their failure or neglect of duty to the governors; to attend to the diet, bedding, cleanness and cloathing of the boys, to take charge and keep an inventory of their clothing, and deliver it out as wanted; to superintend the whole internal management of the institution, to disburse the sums necessary for its incidental expences, and those of the sick list, and account for the same at quarterly meetings; to attend the shambles thrice a week, and examine the meat intended for the house; to attend the potato market, and purchase and see weighed the potatoes for the use of the boys; and finally to examine and certify all bills sent into the board for payment. He is, therefore, not only chaplain, but providore, paymaster, steward, and inspector of the institution; and it is obvious to remark, that if the duties of these latter offices are properly executed (and they are those to which the attention of the governors will be chiefly directed,) that of giving the boys proper religious and other instruction, must unavoidably be discharged under great disadvantage, and with many interruptions, and is in danger of being even neglected as of inferior importance, or at least of less pressing necessity. The salary of the chaplain is one hundred pounds per annum, with an allowance of coals and candles, as he resides in the house. We are of opinion that these appointments would be no more than reasonable, if he were only to discharge the proper functions of that

office, provided he was duly qualified for it, and performed his duty faithfully and effectually, to which we consider that of inspecting the conduct of all the other resident officers and servants to be a very suitable and not unreasonable addition. But we entirely disapprove of his being occupied with those employments which belong to another and very different description of persons, and should be exercised by an officer on the establishment, appointed and paid for the purpose, under the usual denomination of steward or providore.

The other officers of the society who receive salaries, are the register, physician, surgeon, master, usher, housekeeper, and five under-servants. The duty of the register is to attend all meetings of the governors, to take minutes of the proceedings, and enter them in books provided for the purpose; to preserve in his custody all books, papers, writings, &c. belonging to the society; to issue summonses for meetings; to receive subscriptions and pay them into the hands of the treasurer; to discharge such bills as he shall be directed to pay; to prepare and keep the accounts of the society, and present them annually at the first meeting of the governors in November. His salary is one hundred pounds per annum, with an allowance of five per cent. for collecting the annual subscriptions.

The physician and surgeon also receive salaries of one hundred pounds per annum. Neither of them resides; but it is stated to us that they usually visit the school once a week, and at other times when their attendance is necessary. The surgeon examines the boys previous to their admission.

The duty of the master is now confined to the instruction of the boys, and superintending their con-

duct. Till lately he was required to perform most of those duties which have been imposed on the chaplain since he became a resident officer. The salary of the master has hitherto been thirty-five guineas a year, with an allowance that made his appointment near one hundred pounds, exclusive of coals and candles; but it is now intended to augment his salary to one hundred pounds, and to withhold the former allowances. The salary of the usher is twenty pounds, with allowances that may be valued at near fifty pounds. His duty is also confined to the instruction and care of the boys. Both master and usher reside in the house. The housekeeper has twelve pounds per annum, and allowances worth near forty pounds per annum; and the under-servants' wages are five pounds ten shillings each, with diet and lodging.

The officers who receive no salaries are, the president, vice-president, treasurer, and two secretaries. The duty of the secretaries is to superintend the conduct of the register in the execution of his office, and to approve of the apprenticing of the boys, and accepting their indentures. This last, therefore, is the only employment of the secretaries, if the register does his duty, which includes in it (as described in the bye-laws) most of what usually belongs to the office of secretary in other institutions.

We have subjoined in the appendix an abstract of the income and expenditure of the society for the last twelve years, and other returns made to us by the register, of the number of boys admitted in that period, and how disposed of, their course of instruction, and other particulars of the establishment.

Council Chamber, Dublin Castle, }
September 21, 1809. }

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXI.

(Signed.)

ISAAC CORRY.	(L. S.)
GEO. HALL, Provost.	(L. S.)
JAS. VERSCHOYLE,	} (L. S.)
Dean of St. Patrick's.	
JAS. WHITELAW,	} (L. S.)
Vicar of St. Catherine's.	
WILLIAM DISNEY.	(L. S.)
RICH. L. EDGEMORE.	(L. S.)

We have now given these reports as far as they have been published by order of the house of commons in the last session of parliament. The board continue their labours, and we understand they are now engaged in inquiry into schools which are supported by the donations or bequest of private individuals. When further reports are published, we shall endeavour to procure them for insertion in our pages.

To the Proprietors of the B.M.M.

ON THE NAMES OF THE MONTHS.

IN a note inserted in the 42th page of your 4th volume, numerical denominations for the months are strongly recommended—those now in use are objected to “as proceeding from an exploded superstition, or from an evident misnomer, as, in the case of the last four months,”—the late French appellations are applauded, “as making considerable approaches to propriety,” their former system is dignified with the name of a “reformed calendar, and their present rejection of it is attributed to caprice.”

In controverting assertions of this nature, little apology is necessary, even to the worthy member of your company who made them, as I know he is equally a friend to free discussion as the rest of your body, (having the honour of being acquainted with him,) and think that he wishes rather to determine the real truth, than to establish dogmas merely because they were once favoured by his approbation.

P

The inconvenience occasioned in the intercourse of mankind, by the great diversity of languages, was so sensibly felt in the earliest times, that it was then believed, (as is it still by many well informed people,) that the variation of languages was instituted as a curse by the supreme being to punish mankind for a singular instance of disobedience and presumption. There are few points of mutual intelligence which more frequently come into use in the intercourse of men than the determinations of time, and it has been a great convenience that those in use have hitherto been of such general import. The division of time into weeks, or portions of seven days, is nearly universal over the whole world, and can also be traced back to the most remote antiquity, and the names for the months are at least common over the greatest part of Europe, and America, and in all European settlements in the other parts of the world. By any change in the present denominations of time, these advantages would be evidently lost, and an increase given to that curse of Babel, the confusion of language; to which, if it would not lead too much from the points in consideration, I could trace the most serious evils of public wars, and bloodshed, to say nothing of private quarrels and murders.

But there are other grounds of objection, which more decidedly show the inadequacy and impropriety of numerical appellations for the months. To exhibit these in a strong point of view, it will perhaps be as good a method as any, to commence by asking those who uphold this plan, from what period would they begin to reckon the months? and which they would call first month? I suppose they would think this a strange question, as they

must imagine it to be so obvious that first month must mean January; that is to say, they have no doubt, but the new year should commence a few days after the winter solstice. Though the proper time for the commencement of the year has been the subject of much learned dispute, and one very different from the present was in use for the greatest portion of recorded time; yet I will here grant that the year should begin a few days after the winter solstice.—They will then of course, think, the numerical appellations beginning with January, first month, and ending with December, twelve-month, must be of as universal application as they are plain and simple; but in this they will find that they are extremely mistaken, some of them forget, and others do not know, that the winter solstice takes place at directly opposite periods at the southern and northern sides of the equator, and that when it is midwinter here, or the winter solstice, it is midsummer, or the summer solstice, at the cape of Good Hope, and the rest of the southern hemisphere; now if the above appellations were to be established, only conceive what confusion must ensue; the southern calling that month seventh month, which the northern called first month, and so on through the rest of the calendar. But it may be said, that the northern being the most powerful should have the right of naming the months, from the period of the year they thought best, and that the southern should yield to them so far as to begin their year, at midsummer, just after the summer solstice; but, if in reality the winter solstice is the best period to commence the year from, as any opponents believe, would it not be a palpable injustice to compel the southern to begin their

year at their summer solstice; and might they not fairly retaliate if ever they had the power? as might be the case in the revolution of ages; and compel us to call July first month? Now as I have no doubt many worthy men here would prefer death rather than submit to this change, only think what grievous wars might ensue, for this cause, as there have already for others of much less consequence.

In giving names to the months, it is evident then that those of numeral origin are improper, for the reasons above stated. Four of the months at present bear the names of men of ancient renown, and some suppose that it would be best to give the others names of the same nature; but this would be objectionable both from the method not being universally applicable over the whole globe, and because we should, in all probability, be forced in this case to add fame to the memories of the enemies of the human race, who under the name of conquerors and heroes, have so often deluged the earth with blood. The names of the twelve signs of the zodiac seem not liable to any of these objections as designations for the months; but to this the procession of the equinoxes is an insuperable obstacle.

For these reasons it seems clear that arbitrary names, which denote the months in their annual order, without any other obvious meaning, are the best yet proposed, as being least exposed to the above defects. Those we at present use, are sufficiently of this nature to answer every purpose, and the slight degree in which they differ from it, is rather beneficial than otherwise. For though to men of letters and well informed people, the names now in use have all either numeral or historical allusions, yet the mass of mankind know nothing of this, and

use them merely to denote the months themselves; and even the better informed in the common use of those words, seldom think of the persons or facts to which the names allude. We use the names July and August, for example, in general, without bestowing a thought on Julius Cæsar, or Augustus, after whom they are called; many who know very well that septem and octo mean seven and eight, speak of September and October without thinking, or perhaps knowing the reason why September and October are named by these words. Most know that January, March, May, and June, are called after heathen gods, worshipped by the Greeks and Romans, (though that the latter name is of this sort admits of dispute); but the origin of the names February and April are still undetermined so as to remove doubts, notwithstanding much has been published respecting them.

Of the names then in use only three relate decidedly to exploded superstitions, "and as few but the learned know this, and as there can be no great danger of their worshipping Janus, Mars, or Maia, from this circumstance, the superstitious part of the objection can have no great weight, or danger, particularly since, as the author of the note owns, these superstitious are exploded." It is in truth from unexploded existing superstitions, that we are to apprehend mischief, not from exploded ones; and of this kind, for an enlightened civilized community, God knows we have a sufficient stock, to demand all the reforming hands, that like such work, and can be procured, to labour at their extirpation; and till this is done, we may well defer farther consideration of the exploded superstitions.

That the names of the four last months of the year are not "misnomers," as implied in the note, most

know who have read Kennet's Roman Antiquities, which is a common school book, and consequently understand that the Romans began their year a little before the vernal equinox, according to the common custom of mankind, previous to the christian æra, and that consequently September, October, and November and December, are no misnomers, being really, as they imply, the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th months in the ancient Roman calendar; and the numeral part of them being all in the language of the old Romans, shows this directly, and can cause no confusion, but to the person who confounds this language with English; and the old Roman calendar with that we now use.

The assertions at the end of the note, are equally objectionable as those already mentioned;—The French calendar neither deserving the name of a reformed calendar, making considerable approaches to propriety, or their rejection of it again, being the effect of caprice.

In the first place, that which is worse than the original, cannot with propriety be called reformed, and it is easy to show that the names of the months in what is improperly called the French calendar, are still more defective than the numeral names, of which the inconvenience has been already proved; for the numeral names are suitable to one half the globe, though they will not answer for the other half, but the names taken from the *Phænomena of Vegetation*, are only proper to such parts of the same latitude as lie at nearly the same elevation, the seasons of the ripening of various fruits and plants differing materially even in the narrow range of our own small island: besides the invention of these names, if they deserve the name, did not originate with the French,

the Dutch having used them long before, as can be proved from the best authorities; and ~~on~~ giving the months new names, which could not be strictly proper even over the whole of France, and were quite absurd when used in other parts of the world, can "make considerable approaches to propriety," will I believe puzzle the most ingenious sophist to prove.

After what has been said, it requires little consideration, to acquit the French of acting from "caprice," in rejecting the new names for the months, and having recourse again to those which were in general use over the rest of Europe: and if to this any farther argument need be added, it will be found in the recollection that Napoleon, by whose direction this rejection took place, besides being a man of science himself, acted in this respect, with the advice of De La Lande, and other eminent astronomers and learned men, after due deliberation; and that the return to the old system was received with the greatest delight by the whole French people; a delight not arising from caprice, but from the serious inconvenience which they had found in their intercourse with the rest of the world, in using the new names for the months: and which indeed from their inadequacy, and the narrow circle of their application, give a just specimen of the hasty and superficial changes made by the French reformers, in the æra of the revolution, which may well be called that of folly and madness.

Before concluding, it may be satisfactory to some to state one reason more in favour of the present names for the months. While, as has been shown, they are to the mass of mankind, sufficiently free from other meanings than those to which they are applied, to be universally applicable over the whole globe

without inconvenience, to those who know the facts or persons in ancient history and mythology, to which those names allude, they form a valuable monument of grand historical facts, no less remarkable for the extent of their operation, and the continuance of their influence, which is not yet entirely exhausted, than for the surprising nature and origin of that prodigious power, under which they occurred; which was so far extended and lasted so long, and beneath which all the civilized world once bowed; in short, they form to them a remarkable monument of the history, the customs, the religion, and the great men of the Romans, more lasting than one of brass, or marble, which has continued many centuries unimpaired, and promises fairly to endure for ages to come. Those names then consecrated by their antiquity, having been proved by long trial adequate for the purposes to which they are applied, and being also capable of universal use, and rising conspicuous in comparison with other names and systems, which have either been imagined or partially used in a small extent; and any alteration in them having been shown to be likely to create confusion, and narrow the circle of intelligence, it is hoped that those who read this will be satisfied with the propriety of using them, or at least not be led away by unsupported assertions, to suppose that they are improper, or worthy of rejection.

It is not any wonder however that the class of men, who have been taught to use numeral names for the months from their infancy, (and who do not know the facts above stated, which prevent their universal use,) should think well of them; for custom makes whatever men are used to, seem the best, and the reverse of it the worst, all over the world.—

This applies to all who have left that society, as well as those who continue in it; but the latter have an additional reason for approving of those names. The use of a particular phraseology, has an effect similar to that of wearing a peculiar dress, or uniform, to keep up that *Esprit du corps*, which the leaders of religious, as well as of military associations, find so serviceable to their purposes. Thus the glaring dress and accoutrements of the soldiers, the coul and cassock of the monk, and the singular garb of the quaker, are all uniforms; and the peculiar phraseology adopted by each may be called a vocal uniform, having the same affect as uniforms of apparel, in tending to make them act more readily in a body, and to feel particular preference and regard for their own party, and their opinions and interests, to the exclusion of those of the rest of mankind.

The effects of peculiarity of dress in these respects, has long been known; but those of peculiarity of language have been but little noticed, if at all; but there are many reasons for supposing that the latter is in several respects equally potent with the former for the purposes mentioned, and in some, even a superior efficacy. B.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SYMBOLS OF PYTHAGORAS.

(Continued from page 3, No. XXX.)

Τῆς λεωφορεῖν μὴ βαδίει.

Go not by the highway.

THE precept of “abstaining from beans,” is ascribed by the general voice of antiquity to Pythagoras, and enrolled among his symbols.—The tradition of his having given up his life to his base pursuers,

rather than attempt to escape them by passing through a field of beans, if it could be established, would also establish the literal acceptance of the symbol, *Abstain from beans*, as well as of the subject of this paper. But how idle must the supposition be, which would exhibit a man of such comprehensive intellect, the slave of such unintelligible follies? Besides, the tradition is very vague, and such a mode of construing his precepts is opposed to the opinion of all, who have considered them, whether they be those of our own time, or those of the age nearest to him, whose writings have reached us. In considering the symbol, then, of *go not by the highway*; we feel ourselves warranted in proceeding in the same manner, as heretofore, to penetrate the veil.

Revolutions have not been confined to the political world. A great and beneficial, though gradual one has been effected in the empire of the mind. Since the destruction of the Aristotelean philosophy and the dissipation of the Cartesian vortices down the gulf of oblivion, true knowledge has been advancing with rapid, yet steady steps; philosophers have come forth from their closets, and instead of searching through folios for *authorities and references* to no useful end, instead of exhausting their health and strength in pursuits, which made no one wiser, they now study for the benefit of mankind, and are no longer *mere statues stepped from their pedestals to take the air*. They now begin to show themselves in the attractive light of superior geniuses condescending to mingle with the world, and directing their abilities to its improvement, and from those qualities, they are so little like the characters, to whom the meed of philosophy has been heretofore a-

warded, that we are reminded of Plato, who, being once a sojourner, where he was not known, bore his faculties so meekly, and was so kind, so condescending, and so useful, that he was not suspected to be the great philosopher, whose fame sounded loudly forth from Athens. Intense study, total seclusion from the world, and consequently ignorance in its affairs, and therefore uselessness, a cumbersome *second-hand* wisdom; these were the distinguishing characters of the philosophers of the middle ages. According as the darkness of that period was departing, men began to see, that knowledge was something more than mere Latin and Greek, and to understand, that the persons, who were versed in these languages were *not conjurers*. From this has resulted a dangerous extreme, and classical literature seems likely to be as unjustly depreciated, as it was formerly extravagantly extolled.

This train of thought, or something like it, mingles with the ideas generally entertained of the philosophers of Greece. They are supposed to have been persons, who totally abstained from the ordinary pursuits of life, and who would have conceived their dignity lessened by participating in the cares and duties of society. Overlooking the useful activity of the men of science, who now adorn and instruct the world, we obstinately fix our eyes on those reproaches of literature; men, who hoarded up knowledge without use or end, who valued an author in proportion to his obscurity, and, as we may express it, found more pleasure in cracking a nut, than in extracting the kernel. The mean opinion, thus conceived, we transfer to our judgment of a description of men very little like those persons; and perhaps the keen, yet just, abuse poured by Lucian on the self-dub-

bed philosophers of his day, serves to confirm this opinion.

In this however, we err widely : the genuine philosophers of Greece were men earnest in the pursuit of wisdom : they sought after that species of knowledge, which influences the actions of men, and advances the interests of society.

Thus Zeno of Elea, distinguished himself by improving the art of reasoning, and by magnanimously exposing himself to the fury of a tyrant, from whose possession he had endeavoured to rescue his native place, he proved, that his was not theoretic wisdom. Zeno, the founder of the stoic sect, aimed at the improvement of mankind by a clear exposition of the excellence of virtue, and hatefulness of vice, exhibiting in his own life such a consistency with his doctrines, as procured him general esteem, and stamped influence on his words. But, without particularising Plato, Aristotle, and others ; Pythagoras is himself a pregnant instance of their active interference in the affairs of men. After having travelled through all the countries, then the depositories of knowledge, he fixed his residence at Crotona in Italy.—Here by the charms of his person, his skill in the manly exercises, and his superiority in mental acquirements, he obtained unlimited influence. This influence he exerted so effectually, that out of a people sunk in sensuality and sloth, he formed, as it were, a new race, distinguished by manly energy, and the useful virtues.

“Go not by the highway,” then cannot be inferred to enjoin seclusion from the world : but would seem rather to contain the advice, conveyed from high authority in the words, “thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil.” Origen and

Erasmus give nearly the same explanation, and advert to the broad and narrow way spoken of in the new testament. The letter Y, called the Samian letter, from its adaptation by the Samian sage, is supposed to have been chosen to convey similar instruction, or rather, as a varied way of conveying the same instruction. The broad part of the letter represents the way of folly, ignorance, and death, trodden by the multitude—the narrow part stands the representative of the useful course of the wise man, a course, whence man is more liable to deviate, inasmuch as self-control is difficult of attainment, while self-gratification continually solicits.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

REPLY OF SOLON TO OBSERVATIONS
ON HIS PAPER ON THE SUNDAY
SCHOOL-HOUSE.

To the proprietors of the B.M.M.

AT the close of your monthly retrospect of politics for October last, I observed some very severe strictures on my reply to the concluding part of that article, for the preceding month, on the subject of the Sunday School-house then building.

To be replied to by argument, and with temper, is no matter of surprise to me, but to be attacked and abused with such virulence on that part of my paper, which was avowedly suppressed—and by my own consent suppressed, has excited a degree of astonishment in my mind which I never expected to feel at the conduct of the managers of the Belfast Magazine. Immediately after the publication of the number for October, I prepared and forwarded a remonstrance, and was told it was sent to one of your ma-

nagers for judgment; but on the appearance of the next number, and finding no notice taken of it, I applied to you by note for the manuscript, and received for answer—you had never seen it. I also made application to the person to whom I was informed it had been sent, and from him I received a similar answer. The paper *may* have been lost without meeting the eye of either—I therefore take the liberty of repeating some of the observations contained in it, which I hope for the sake of justice, and for the interest of the work you are concerned in, you will send forth to the world, and without mutilation allow it to be judged of by the public—and if it merits a reply, let it be answered in a cool and temperate manner, by argument, and not by abuse.

A few days after my reply to your *Retrospective Politician* was offered for publication, it was shown to me marked with a pencil in many places: those marked places, I was told, were by the person to whom it was sent for judgment, considered inadmissible, and that if I did not consent that those parts should be expunged, it would not be published. Observing that still enough remained to fully refute the observations which had been made, and wishing by a fair and candid statement to undeceive the public with respect to the real state of the fabric in question, I readily acquiesced in having the marked passages omitted.

From a thorough conviction that I could give no stronger proofs of candour and honest intention, than by submitting to have my paper curtailed, and that by the person whom I had good reason to suppose was the writer of the article to which it replied. Conceiving that what I had suffered to be suppressed, in justice and in reason, should have

been considered as if it never had been written, and that a manager of a periodical work not only replying to, but with acrimony attacking, that part of an essay he had not the candour to publish; and *that part* which the writer himself consented should be suppressed, takes an unfair advantage of his correspondents. Under all those circumstances, I have been induced to offer for insertion in your work which I esteem, this remonstrance against treatment which I am not alone in thinking both illiberal and unjust.

My respondent says, that whatever of argument was contained in my paper, "has been published, and so far the rights of free discussion have been maintained." But provided we had disagreed on that point, and that I should have conceived he had marked for omission, what I considered argument essential to my purpose, and insisted on having all or none published. I ask him,—would the rights of free discussion have been maintained by his refusal to give place to my reply? But considering that I did consent to the omission of the marked passages, were the rights of free discussion not invaded, by his endeavouring to divert the attention of the public from my reply, by observing on the parts suppressed—and leading his readers to suppose that those parts were "rancorous, personally abusive, railing, transgressing the bounds of decorum, and deserving of decided reprobation."—I am decidedly convinced, that any paper really deserving of the castigation my unfortunate essay has undergone, is beneath the notice of the editor or manager of such a work as the *Belfast Magazine*, and that more justice would be done the writer by scouting it altogether, than by advising him to leave out part of it, publish part of it, and

then with virulence attack what the public may never have an opportunity of judging of.

Many well grounded complaints have been made that the Irish press has long been in a shackled and dependent state, and it was hoped from its prospectus, the Belfast Magazine would in some measure rescue it from that state of bondage under which it had laboured, but how far such treatment as I have received will tend towards that desirable purpose may be easily answered. If the managers set themselves up as supreme judges for the public, giving insertion only to productions of their own, or such as may fully meet their approbation,—or garble that which is in opposition to any opinion they may have hazarded, and attack their correspondents—not by arguments, but with abuse—not on what they have thought proper to give to the public, but on what they refuse to publish. I believe few will disagree with me when I say, that the rights of free discussion have not been preserved, nor can the Belfast Magazine be considered the champion of the Irish press—but that so far as that work is concerned, the rights of free discussion have been annihilated and the Irish press degraded—nor can we complain of arbitrary governors, and a keen scented attorney-generals being the only enemies to the liberties of the press.

Be assured, Gentlemen, that had I not the highest respect for the Belfast Magazine, and the most ardent wishes for its success, I would not have put myself to the trouble of thus twice remonstrating against the treatment I have received. And I have taken the liberty of advising you, that my case may be the last of such a nature, more on account of the work, than for the sake of setting the public right respecting my-

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self; as every person I have had any conversation with on the subject (though unknown to be personally concerned) has “decidedly reprobated” the unjust attack made on

SOLON.

THE Proprietors of the Belfast Monthly Magazine, for this one time, admit Solon to appear without alteration, and give a sample of his abusive manner of treating those from whom he differs in sentiment, but until he learns to write with more coolness, they must decline his correspondence in future. The reader may judge from the specimen given in the present, of the intemperate style of his former letter. In violence of expression they have an exact resemblance. The proprietors are determined to exercise the right of judging of papers offered for admission into their pages, and of rejecting such as they disapprove, either in whole, or in part: otherwise, they must become mere cyphers, subject to the caprice of their correspondents, and liable to publish what might be very unfit for the public eye. The conductors of a periodical press must soon sink into slaves, if they are bound to publish all that may be offered, even at abuse of themselves, without any exercise of their own discretion. We should then have the licentiousness, not the liberty of the press. Solon was informed, that if he did not agree to leave out parts of his former letter, which were judged unfit for publication, it would not be inserted. He acquiesced in the suppression, and admits that enough of argument still remained. It was only abuse which was left out, and whatsoever of argument his letter contained, was left untouched. No procedure we conceive could be fairer. The writer of the political retrospect conceives he was strictly

Justifiable in afterwards assigning his reasons for rejecting the parts omitted. Solon's second letter *never reached either the Editor, or the writer of that part of the retrospect which censured his former letter*, notwithstanding Solon's malicious insinuation, that his letter *may* have been lost without meeting the eye of either. Nothing is more unfair than dealing in insinuations. We trust the characters we have hitherto supported in life, will effectually shield us from all such unfair attacks. The writer, who substitutes insinuations instead of argument, forfeits all claims to be admitted into the lists of fair controversy.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE WORD PICTURESQUE.

SIR,

IN their refined speculations on the nature and objects of taste, ingenious authors are apt to confuse their readers, and, at length, to grow confused themselves, by an excess of minute attention, which, in reality, brings the subject *too close to the eye* for clear and distinct vision. Truth lies in the natural view of things, not in the microscopical; and after dwelling long on the nice distinctions of philosophical criticism, we find it difficult, by this overstraining of the mental eye, to recognize, what had before, instantly, and instinctively, excited our sympathy, or attracted our admiration.

Thus after all that has been said or sung, with regard to the PICTURESQUE, we cannot help deeming it merely a subdivision of the BEAUTIFUL, and that its nature and effects will be best understood by recurring to the literal meaning of the term Picturesque, i. e. after the manner of painting, in the stile of a

good painter. "*Ut pictura, poesis.*" That is, poetry is or ought to be a speaking picture, or *picturesque*. and poetic images are, chiefly, such lively and picturesque copies of visual impressions, which memory recalls, and fancy combines, in the manner best calculated to attract, and fix attention.

The generality of poetic images have been so often brought before us, in wearisome iteration, that such images, themselves mere shadows of impressions of the sense, being thus still farther diluted as it were, into mere shadows of a shade, they lose all power of stimulating the memory, or exciting the imagination. The ear only, is visited by a succession of pleasing sounds, and the words pass over it, without any correspondent ideas; a chosen few have, however, the talent of inverting this order, and by a seeming creation, or by a happy combination, can communicate to the ideas of memory, or to the imagery of fancy, all the liveliness and full effect of actual sensible impressions. "His ardent fancy, says Gibbon, kindled every idea to a sentiment, and every sentiment to a passion." The words, the ideas, the sensible impression, the correspondent feelings, form the links of the chain of association, which genius traverses, like the flame of electricity, with such rapidity indeed, that the effect of the whole on the reader of sensibility, is simultaneous. Hence, the power of ideal imagery, complicated as it is with its train of associations, often exceeds that of our simple, and unconnected sensations.

Whenever the attention of the reader is arrested by the descriptive, or figurative creations or combinations of the poet, in such a manner that the images excited partake in a great degree of the strength and vividness of the sen-

sible impression, then the term Picturesque is properly applied.—This word however, like most other terms, diverges from its original application, the scenery of nature, to the expression of many analogous ideas. Each word in our language may be said to have one direct or vertical meaning, and from that perpendicular, descend, in oblique lines, the metaphorical applications. These in all their grades, are but repeated examples of that great and constantly operating law of our nature, the associating principle. This principle may be compared to the *cellular substance* in the anatomy of the body, which is the great connecting medium of every organ of the human frame, and even of every part of the same organ; and it is matter of surprise, how the author of philosophical essays,* can be so hostile to the Hartleyan Hypothesis, when his whole book, or at least the better part of it, is one continued, and beautiful illustration of the agency and predominance of the associating principle, throughout all the philosophy of mind.

Now when the reader's attention is arrested; when he stops to admire; when the figurative language rivals the vivacity of visual impression, so as to make us think we actually saw, what is only recounted; the description, whether of nature in general, or of human nature, or of the works of art; it may still be properly called *picturesque*.

An example or two will best illustrate this, and as common examples, by use, pall upon the ear, and do not sufficiently excite attention; I shall endeavour to assist, by their novelty, the picturesque effect. The first is from Beaumont and Fletcher, the second from Plautus.

• Dugald Stewart.

Fie! you have miss'd it here, Antiphila,
These colours are not dull, and pale enough,
To show a soul so full of misery,
As this sad lady's was—do it by me,
Put me on th' island.—

I stand upon the sea-beach, now, and think,
Mine arms, thus, and mine hair blown by
the wind

Wild as that desert, and let all about me
Be teachers of my story—do my face
If thou hadst ever feeling of a sorrow
Thus—thus, Antiphila—strive to make me
look

Like sorrow's monument, and the trees
about me

Let them be dry and leafless; let the rocks
Groan with continual surges, and behind
me,

Make all a desolation. See!—See—wrenches,

A miserable life of this poor picture.

Here, the description is so lively that we summon up in our fancy, the impressions of sense. We do not rest on the words and words alone, as in the generality of cases, but we proceed from the signs to the things signified, by a pleasing effort of the mind, which is stimulated by novelty into action, instead of passively receiving, through the ear, a succession of sounding syllables. It is *picturesque*, and the following from old Plautus is not less so. How pleasing that a picture drawn two thousand years ago, should still be so fresh and lively in its colouring!

Dr...Quid vides? Sc. Mulierculas
Video, sedentes in scapha sola duas,
Neque gubernator usquam illis esse potuit.
Ut afficiantur misellæ! luge, quæ, perbene,
Ab saxo avortet fluctus ad litus scapham,
Non vidisse undas me majores censeo.
Salvæ sunt, si illos fluctus devitaverint;
Nunc—nunc, periculum est, eiecit alteram,
At in vado 'st; jam facile enabit. Eugepæ!

Viden alteram? illam ut fluctus eiecit foras;
Surrexit, horum se capessit: salva res.
Desilivit hæc autem altera in terram a
scapha,

Ut præ timore in genua in undas concidit!
Salva 'st, Evæsit ex aqua: jam in litore est.

This is certainly a picturesque description. We see the figures move on the retina of imagination, almost as distinctly as they would appear on the retina of the eye. I should think that this term *retina* may be derived, with more philosophical truth, from the verb "*retineo*" to retain, than from *rete* a net, to which the mere expansion of the optic nerve has little resemblance. It is now ascertained*, that the visual impressions from external objects, are really *retained* for a longer or shorter time, according to their vividness. on the *retina*, considered as the expansion of the optic nerve; and it is more than probable, that the brain itself, that great mass of nerve, which is called the sensorium, has the organic power of retaining *still longer* the vestiges of impressions from external objects. When the power of attention is exerted, these vestiges of the original impressions are perceived, or it may be said, *felt* in the brain, or common sensorium, and are named *ideas of memory*, or if they happen to be combined, not as they were at first received, but in a new order of association, they are then denominated *ideas of imagination*.

In some cases of extreme sensibility, the effect of the original constitution, and not infrequently the effects of disease, these ideas become so vivid as to be mistaken for real impressions, and excite just the same sensations as are excited by surrounding objects. They then constitute the phrenzy of the poet, or the delirium of the common man. In a less degree of sensibility, it is called a faithful memory or a lively imagination.

Of all the senses, the objects of

sight, seem to leave the most permanent impressions; and the correspondent vestiges or ideas in the brain, are the most frequently, and therefore the most readily, summoned up, and recognized. In our dreams, which may be called the scattered and confuse: *vestiges* of our senses, those of *sight* form always the principal assemblage, and dreams are therefore justly entitled to the epithet *picturesque*, being the floating pictures or copies of the impressions from external objects, which remain on the brain, during a state of semi or sub-excitement.

The term *idea*, or image has, indeed, given rise to a deceptive phraseology, apparently implying that the organic changes or phases of the brain which take place from the sensible impressions of external things, are as perfect resemblances and miniature copies of these objects, as the picture on the retina of the eye is of the external objects to which that organ is directed. A mere optical phenomenon, observed no doubt from the earliest times, confined to one of the senses only, but that one which has the most prevailing influence in our waking or sleeping states, has given rise to the long received theory of ideology, and has indeed modified all modern languages, in correspondence to that theory. Because there is a picture or image of external objects formed at the bottom of the eye, we have no reason to conclude that the organic change of the brain, whatever it may be, is from the transmission of a similar picture or image to the brain itself, under the new denomination of *idea*. Much less ground have we to apply a theory so unsupported by fact in regard to the sense of sight, to the other senses. To *none* of which however the same phraseology has been applied, founded on the particular phenomenon present-

* See the most ingenious paper of Dr. E. Darwin on ocular spectra, inserted in the *Zoonomia*.

ed on the bottom of the eye, by the refraction of light through its different humours. We talk of the ideas of taste, of touch, and of sounds, as well as of sight, and if we had said images, (a synonymous word,) the absurdity must appear manifest.

I should imagine the term *vestiges*, to be the most appropriate and truly descriptive, as applied to the changes produced on the brain by the impressions through the senses, not merely in their present and immediate operation, but leaving behind these traces or *vestiges*, which are, in their natural order, called ideas of memory, and in a novel combination, the ideas of fancy. The most creative imagination is restricted to the materials supplied by the organs of sense, in its wildest combinations, and he who ascends "the brightest heaven of invention," must receive what may be called his raw materials, through the portals of the five senses, like the most common of mortals.

Whether awake, or in our dreams, the term Picturesque can with propriety be applied only to the impressions or the vestiges of the sense of sight. Our dreams are Picturesque, as being chiefly employed in the retracement of visual impressions, and the picturesque effect is the more lively from the absence, during sleep, of all impressions of the other senses. A man born blind, or who, like Dr. Blacklock, had become so, in his infancy, must be deprived of this nocturnal imagery, and, it is probable, is therefore less disposed to dream than other people. It is likely too, that after confinement, for a certain time, in total darkness, the vestiges of visual impression would become so completely effaced, that we should never dream of external objects as conveyed to us by the sight, which is now receiving such constant and reiterated stimulus,

during our waking hours, as will not entirely cease during our sleeping ones.

There may be an application of the term Picturesque to Painting, and a picturesque landscape, &c. expresses only a choice, yet chaste selection of the most striking beauties in the scenery of nature. The Picturesque in Poetry is such a lively description as arrests the attention, and makes us, in the faith of a warm fancy, and a feeling heart, almost mistake the vestiges on the brain, for the actual impressions of the sense. Thus to give another example or two:

Arcite is grimly visaged: yet his eye
Is like an engine bent, or a sharp weapon

In a soft sheath. Mercy, and manly courage

Are bed-fellows in his visage: Palamon
Has a most menacing aspect, his brow
Is grav'd, and seems to bury what it frowns
on;

Yet sometimes 'tis not so, but alters to
The quality of his thoughts—Long time
his eye

Will dwell upon his object. Melancholy
Becomes him nobly—so does Arcite's
mirth;

But Palamon's sadness is a kind of mirth,
So mingled, as if mirth did make him sad,
And sadness, merry.

Again,

His worth is great, valiant he is, and temperate,

And one that never thinks his life his own,
If his friend need it. When he was a boy,
As oft as I return'd, he would gaze upon
me,

And view me round, to see in what one limb

The virtue lay to do those things he heard.
Then would he wish to see my sword, and
feel

The quickness of the edge, and in his hand
Weigh it.

In the following descriptions of VENUS and DIANA, we see instances of the Picturesque, of that creative imagination which embodies the sha-

dows of a shade, and gives them an apparent life and reality.

The Goddess self, some noble hand had wrought,
Smiling she seem'd, and full of pleasing thought,

From ocean as she first began to rise,
And smoo'd the ruffled seas, and clear'd the skies.

She trode the brine, all bare below her breast,

And the green waves but ill-conceal'd the rest.

A lute she held: and on her head was seen,

A wreath of roses red, and myrtles green.
Her turtles fann'd the buxom air above,
And by his mother stood an infant Love,
With wings unfledg'd; his eyes were band'd o'er;

His hands a bow, his back a quiver bore,
Supply'd with arrows bright and keen, a shining store.

The graceful goddess was array'd in green,
And at her feet were little beagles seen,
Watching with upward eyes the motions of their queen.

Her legs were buskin'd, and the left before

In act to shoot: a silver bow she bore,
And on her back a painted quiver wore.
She trod a waxing moon that soon would wane,

And drinking borrow'd life, be filled again.
With downcast eyes, as seeming to survey,
The dark dominions her alternate sway.

Our most picturesque poet, or rather the best miniature painter in poetry, who has appeared of late years, is Dr. Darwin. He seems, however, to have been led into a faulty extreme, by dwelling almost exclusively on visual impressions, without borrowing much from those other sources, which affect the common sympathies of our nature.

The term Picturesque is equally applicable to prose as to poetry, and a picturesque style is perhaps the most desirable, by the impression it never fails to make on the reader. Let us take an example or two from Gibbon.

"In the more simple state of the Arabs, the nation is free, because

each of her sons disdains a base submission to the will of a master. His breast is fortified with the austere virtues of courage, patience, and sobriety: the love of independence prompts him to exercise the habits of self-command, and the fear of dishonour guards him from the meaner apprehensions of pain of danger, and of death. The gravity and firmness of his mind is conspicuous in his outward demeanor. His speech is slow, weighty and concise: he is seldom provoked to laughter; his only gesture is that of stroking his beard, the venerable symbol of manhood, and the sense of his own importance teaches him to accost his equals without levity, and his superiors without awe." A second picture from the same author, who unites the copiousness of Livy, with the condensation of Tacitus, and from whom it is most difficult to take a word away without destroying a beauty, or of adding a word without enfeebling the vigour of the sentiment.

"With a golden apple in his hand, he slowly walked between two lines of contending beauties: his eye was detained by the charms of Icasia, and in the awkwardness of a first declaration, the prince could only observe, that, in this world, women had been the cause of much evil—and surely, sir, she pertly replied, they have likewise been the occasion of much good. This affectation of unseasonable wit displeased the imperial lover: he turned aside in disgust. Icasia concealed her mortification in a convent; and the modest silence of Theodora was rewarded with the golden apple."

Thus the picturesque in poetry as in prose appears to be placed in the art or talent of summoning up the ideas or vestiges of visual impressions, in such a defined and forcible manner, as to affect us nearly in the same degree as actual sensations. I shall not dwell at present on the me-

taphorical, or, as they have been lately called, the *transitive* applications of this fashionable word, being all of them cases illustrative of the pervading principle of association, of which indeed the word *transitive* is in itself expressive. I fear, I have exceeded the limits assigned to such contributions in your modest, and meritorious publication.

A. P.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

ON REAR WINGS.

IN the sixth report of the board of Education inserted in your 26th number, (p. 173) I observed the following words, "another wing was intended in the *rear* of the hospital." Not knowing of any fowl whose wings are in its rear, I request to be informed, by some of your correspondents; 1st, whether a wing in the rear is not properly a tail, and 2dly, whether a thing whose wing is a tail, is not a bull.

Your obedient servant,

COCKNEY.

Appendix, No. 11.

TO THE FIRST REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF ROADS AND CARRIAGES.

Evidence in favour of Single-horse-carriages.

* BY ARTHUR YOUNG.

IF it was not much more liberal to confess an error than to persist in one, I might perhaps have been induced to attempt, by every means, to establish a practice which experience has not sufficiently founded; one of the first pieces I ventur'd, many years ago, to the eye of the public, was a memoir in the *Museum Rusticum*, on the use of broad-wheeled waggons, drawn by eight horses,

rather than common ones by four. Further experience has however convinced me, that in proportion as the draught is lessened the power is increased, until perfection is attained in a one-horse cart.

The most general farmer's carriage in this kindgom is a waggon drawn by four horses, in which is conveyed corn, hay, wood, &c. But not dung or earth, which are usually moved by carts or tumbrels drawn by three or four horses: carriers use almost universally broad-wheeled waggons, drawn by eight horses.

In France the draught is very generally large two-wheeled carts, drawn by three, four, or five horses.

In Scotland, waggons were once general, which were changed for large carts, and since for small ones, drawn by one horse.

In Ireland, nothing is known in common but the one-horse car, with low wheels beneath the body of the machine. Gentleman have built carts; and some have imported English waggons, and men to drive them, but these are universally laid aside, on conviction of their inferiority.

During my residence in Ireland, I had the opportunity of seeing the use of the Irish car in all sorts of work, and it was with some degree of amazement that I found a tool, which, in the eyes of a man accustomed to waggons, was not much better than a wheel-barrow, clearing corn and hay fields with an expedition nothing equivocal. The inferiority however to a one horse cart is great.

So enlightened as the professors of husbandry are in England, it is a bold undertaking to find fault with any practice that obtains very generally among them; yet in this point of employing waggons, and large carts, for the various works that are to be done cheaper with

* From his *Annals of Agriculture*, vol. 18, P. 174.

one-horse carts, the Scotch and Irish system is, beyond all question, preferable.

Of this I received, in Ireland, so entire a conviction that on my return from that kingdom in 1779, and taking into my own hands, in 1780, a part of the farm I occupy at present, I built at London two carts, on which I relied entirely, never having had either waggon or tumbrel from that hour to this.—The rule by which I built these first carts was to make them of a capacity proportioned to the Suffolk waggons I had been accustomed to, which contain in the *buck* 96 cubical feet, being 12 long, 4 broad, and 2 deep. To give one horse the 4th of the load of 4, I made the carts of 24 cubical feet space, or 4 feet by 3, and 2 deep. But in the observations I had very soon an opportunity of making, I found the power of a horse so much greater when working single, than when united in a team, that in the next carts I built, I enlarged them to the following dimensions, to which I have adhered in all I have built even since both for myself and others.

Buck Length, 3 feet 1 Inch.

— Breadth, 3 feet 7 Inches.

— Depth, 2 feet.

Cubical feet, 35 and a fraction (an error.)
These dimensions of Mr. Young give
62,952

36½ cubic feet - - 62,649 cubic inches.

In regard to the use of these carts, I have found them equal to all the business of my farm; I have five of them, and should not add more than one to the number if I was to increase my business to 4 or 500 acres: they cart hay, corn in the straw, faggot-wood, billets, dung, clay, marl, lime, bricks, &c. and carry out 9, and even 10 combs of wheat, and I never put more than one horse or ox in them.

But farms vastly more considerable

than mine have the work entirely performed by means of them. I have seen in Ireland 500 acres of corn, and 300 of hay, and 10,000 barrels of lime, carted in a year, all done by one-horse carts or cars. And I am informed, that Mr. Culley of Northumberland, conducts all the business of his immense farm with such carts.

But the principal inquiry is, whether this system is, or is ~~not~~ preferable to the common one of employing both waggons and tumbrels: the former for corn in sacks, and in the straw, and for hay, &c? Let us examine this matter more in detail.

1. *Price and Repairs.*—The first object to consider is the original cost; the expences of stocking with carts I know exactly; the whole of my farm, which is about 350 acres, must be reckoned, for woodlands come heavily into the account of carriage, I do all the business with five carts, and it is not trifling; from 800 to 1,900 cubical yards of compost per annum, the earth or marl in which is twice carted *into* and *out* of the yards. As I shall however build another cart, I will calculate on six to 350 acres, which at £10. 10s. each, are £63. I know of no farm of the same size, in an arable county, that has less than three waggons and three tumbrels, but they have generally more; the waggons new (as I take the new price of carts, I must do the same in the other case), at £22. to £25. and the tumbrels at £11. there is always a light cart besides, which may be estimated at £6. or £7.

	£.	s.	d.
Say, ... Waggons - - -	70	-	-
Tumbrels - - -	33	-	-
Cart - - - - -	6	-	-
	<hr/>		
	109	-	-
Deduct - - -	63	-	-
	<hr/>		
Being - - -	46	-	-

And this proportion will be about 40 per cent. in annual repairs. Here then there is no comparison to be made.

II. The next inquiry is, the power of a horse or ox, whether greater in a cart, or in conjunction with three other horses in a waggon?

The loads which I commonly carry in my carts are such as will resolve this doubt the instant they are named. I have horses (which 10 years ago would not have sold for more than £5.) that draw nine coombs of wheat from 7 to 10 miles, with some hills in the road. I have had 10 coombs drawn by one ox; this is the proportion of 18 quarters in a waggon of four horses, and 20 quarters for four oxen. From the inquiries which I have made, 20 coombs of wheat are the common load of four horses, and 25 coombs the most that is carried in narrow-wheeled waggons; I may suppose the load of 9 to that of 25 to be as 9 to 6 $\frac{1}{4}$; call it 9 to 6, and the superiority must be admitted to be great. But there is something in the horses, for the average of farmers' horses are abundantly better than mine; fine horses are a farming luxury which I never indulged; but there is none more common among farmers; and if good teams are in contemplation, the comparison would be absurd: the difference should then be reckoned as 9 to 5.

These carts of mine, having for more than ten years been objects of much farming ridicule, I have more than once been diverted with the objections that have been made to them; a considerable farmer was holding them very cheap, when I offered him a bet, which his confidence in waggons would not allow him to accept. I offered to wager him that he should load a waggon until five horses could not stir with it, let the

driver exert his whip as he might; and that I would with *four* of the same horses in my carts carry away that load with ease. There are many farmers, however, that have observed the loads which poor men in towns carry of coals in carts, drawn by one horse or a couple of asses, that are inclined to admit in this respect the superiority of carts.

III. *Hay and corn in the straw.*—But the gentlemen who are willing to allow that, condemn them utterly for the work of hay-time and harvest.

It is not easy to suppose upon what principles; for when the ladders are fixed, these carts spread an oblong square of 8 feet 4 inches by 5 feet 9 inches, or 47 square feet and a fraction. Now a Suffolk waggon extends, ladders included, 15 feet by 5, or 75 square feet; these horses as commonly used, have to each horse therefore 25 square feet; even suppose but two horses, yet it will be no more than 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ square feet, instead of 47; in any way therefore I have a broader basis on which to build a load; and if a man be kept constantly pitching to one cart, or two pitchers to two carts, it seems demonstrable that as much will be carried by one machine as by another; for in such the pitchers can be no more than constantly employed, whatever size the waggon or cart may be of; celerity is the great point, and this must, in the nature of things, be with the smallest machine and the smallest load; it would be strange indeed if a little empty cart could not return as speedily as a waggon. In two respects there are advantages of some consideration; in loading the cart is *bound*, that is, the loads fastened with ropes in one fifth of the time of a waggon; indeed it is done effectually in one minute; and in unloading at the beginning of a hay or stack, the load may be shot down as

dung or earth is, the hind ladder is made to draw out easily by a man placing his back to it, and taking hold of it with his hands beside him; this is the Irish way from the first to the last of a stack; but the benefit is not much after it is raised to some height. In this method, one active confidential man to pitch, can drive on all the rest, for he can never have to wait, which is sometimes the case in the common method*. If he keeps his gang at work, they are sure to keep him so.

But I have in point of this inquiry, a fact which ought to weigh, if nothing else did; I always put out my harvest *by the acre*, the men to reap, bind, stook, cart, drive, stack, mow, heap cart, &c. I find them no assistance; keeping no house servant for the farm of any sort; and if there were a disadvantage in the work being done with carts instead of waggons, I should not fail to hear of it annually, and be forced to pay the men accordingly. The first year I used them, I not only heard of it, but most violently, and found a waggon at work one morning which my men had borrowed of a tenant; this I put a stop to after that day, converting it to an experiment, by making them note the ground they cleared, and assuring them, that if they convinced me they lost for want of a waggon, I would allow them for such loss. I never had the claim of a farthing; I heard no more of waggons from that time till this, and my harvest is executed every year partly by new hands, but the use of carts is perfectly established with

* I have often had in contemplation an improvement in unloading, which is to spread a rope-net in the cart, or else on the barn-floor, for the cart to shoot the load on to, and to hoist the whole at once by a mechanical power, on to the gaff or stack; it could be easily done, and would save much time.

me. Here follow the terms on which my harvest is done, which are the same as given by my neighbours.

Beans and wheat, reaped and finished in stook, 5s. an acre. Barley and oats, mown and stacked, or barked, 4s. an acre. If turned in swarth, 3d. an acre more. Day-work, if taken off, 2s.

Harvest to be no less than £3. a man, if less, to be made up at 2s. a day; or by hurling at 2s. 6d. an acre, and thrashing seed-wheat at 6d. a bushel.

Three bushels of malt, and seven shillings each man, in lieu of earnest gloves, hawky (harvest home supper), and christmas dinner.

If these terms are examined, they will not, I believe, mark any disadvantage attending the use of carts; but on the contrary, establish clearly the fact, that they are as effective as waggons.

IV. *Labour*.—The labour of driving these carts has been urged to me as a point in which they are deficient; I will not assert, that in all cases whatever the expence of driving is not greater; I will venture no further than the assertion, that it has not been so with me. The attendance with a waggon varies, in this respect I have been equal. I have sent out four carts with two men, also with one man and two boys, three with one man and a lad; 2s. 6d. in labour has driven 36 coombs of wheat. If there is a difference, it is too inconsiderable for notice.

In home-work, the harvest agreement I just now alluded to yields the most complete satisfaction, the men who take the harvest find a boy or two for drivers, and as the cart carries, drawn by one horse, more than half of a waggon drawn by two horses, no conclusion can be more plain or simple than is for a boy to drive one horse, is as cheap

as 2s. for a man to drive two or three horses. However I state the fact as it is, and leave reasoning to those who love it.

With dung, earth, &c. it is just the same;—stop any tumbrel in the country, and ask the driver what his pay is; and what his load in cubic yards or tons? My cart will be driven away cheaper than tumbrels; a boy can drive a tumbrel, but he cannot unload it; and the proportion between the pay of my driver and another is greater than that of our loads. In harvest 1s. drives that load which is laid upon 47 square feet; it is surely a very simple comparison to know if a man at 2s. drives the double? and the same with dung, &c.

V. *Accidents.*—If one wheel of a waggon breaks down, the whole team is stopped, and a considerable loss ensues; if one wheel in six or eight carts breaks down, the load is divided among the rest, and the loss is trifling.

VI. In examining more particularly into the fact, it has been thought by some that my carts have a disadvantage in the narrowness of the wheels, which are only $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches wide: but this is a great error, as $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches for one horse equal 20 inches for eight horses, instead of which the load for that team is drawn on wheels of no more than nine inches. If for four horses the wheels were nine inches, still mine are proportionally wider.

VII. The division of draught alone, without regarding any circumstance relating to the carriage drawn, is I conceive, the principal utility. I have in travelling, conversed with the drivers of many waggons, that are drawn by eight horses, and the most intelligent among them have informed me, that no skill in driv-

ing, nor any attention whatever, is equal to making the horses in a team draw exactly an equal share; one or two are always idle, not saving themselves usefully in order for exertion when exertion is wanted; but unfairly because unequally; there will always be some horses freer in drawing than others, and the attention of the driver must be for ever awake to keep all to an equal share of the load. Whatever demands much attention is imperfect, for many drivers will be careless and not give it, and in such cases the teams suffer; but when each horse has his load given him distinctly, he is forced to draw his fair share; and a very little attention *once* given in loading, to divide the total to be drawn according to the ability of the different horses, will make it equal and fair to all.

VIII. The height of the wheels of a cart, gives an advantage unattainable in common waggons, and adds greatly to the power of the horse. The four wheels of all the English waggons I have seen are made much lower than the hind ones, for the conveniency of turning; this places the shaft-horse alone, of all the team, in the right position, where false chains are not provided; in all the Suffolk teams, the trace horses not drawing in a right line to the centre of the wheel, but making an angle with the points of the shafts, their force draws a great weight on the back of the thill-horse; it is however, by means of false chains, remediable; but the height of the wheel is not; and no wonder that horses, acting by means of a five-feet wheel, should have power unknown to those that draw a four-feet one.

(*To be Continued.*)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

LIFE OF DAVID MANSON.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

AS sketches of the lives of eminent persons, are a part of the contents of your publication; a short history of the life of the ingenious, the benevolent, the persevering, and successful David Manson, late a schoolmaster in Belfast, claims a page, or two, in your instructive Magazine. This eminent improver of youth, was the son of Mr. John Manson, and of Agnes Jamieson, inhabitants of the parish of Carncastle, which is on the eastern coast of the county of Antrim, between Glenarn and Larne. He was born in the year of our Lord 1726.

His constitution from his infancy, was delicate: in his eighth year it received a very severe shock, from a most violent attack of a rheumatic fever; which shattered his weak frame, and left him in such a state of debility, that he never afterward was fit for undertaking any laborious or active employment. This is a striking instance of the goodness of providence, even in the afflictions of mankind, and that affliction cometh not forth from the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground. This was the occasional cause of the commencement of his own improvement; and the efficient cause of most, beneficial improvements of his countrymen.

His mother, who was a very good scholar, seized the opportunity from his confinement, of laying the foundation of his future eminence. His natural genius, the thoughtfulness occasioned by disease and confinement, seconded her endeavours, so successfully, that he soon became so

good an English scholar, that he was invited to teach Mr. Shaw's children, in Ballygelly-house. From the progress he had made in learning, by the mild manner of his mother's instructions, he thought of imitating the same plans with the children at Ballygelly, that had been suggested by his mother's tender affection, with the additional improvement, of teaching when he played with the children. These are the foundations, the first rudiments of his play-school, which he instituted in Belfast; and by adhering to the rules afterward perfected by him, he, and every schoolmaster who imitated him, taught the English language, with unexpected and unrivalled success.

When he had taught in Ballygelly, so far as was thought necessary, he removed to Larne, where he taught the English language, improved himself in writing, in arithmetic, in the practical branches of the mathematics, and in the rudiments of the Latin language, in the school of Mr. Robert White, afterward the learned and pious protestant dissenting minister of Templepatrick, in the county of Antrim.

As he was ambitious of becoming a complete teacher, and as English, writing, arithmetic, the rudiments of Latin and Greek, and the practical branches of mathematics, were generally taught in the same school, and by one master; and as he thought, from his progress in writing, he was not perfectly qualified for this multifarious and laborious task, he put himself under the care of the celebrated penman, Mr. King, who then taught in Belfast.

Being then sufficiently qualified for being a general schoolmaster, he settled in Ballycastle, where he

became acquainted with Miss Linn; but while he remained in Belfast, he found, that the sea-faring men, who sailed between Belfast and Liverpool, were very deficient in the knowledge of mathematical navigation: he thought his usefulness would be more extensive, if he commenced teacher in England.— There he commenced the education of young men upon a new and improved plan. He taught one pupil only, at the same time; at the moderate rate of six-pence the hour. His care, his benevolent attention to his pupils, secured him the desired success; but his mother's illness, and his attachment to Miss Linn, obliged him to forsake these plans; and to return to his native country.

After his mother's death, and his marriage with Miss Linn, he settled for life in Belfast; in the year of our Lord 1752. The inhabitants of this great mercantile town know, that he spent his whole life in great and unwearied exertions, for the benefit of youth; he dedicated all his time, all his powers, and all his improvements, to their education. His benevolent designs were attended with desired success. He taught them with ease and expedition to read distinctly, and to understand the English classics. He taught them the grammatical construction of language, and to express their sentiments with grammatical precision and propriety. His school was free to every schoolmaster, who chose to be improved by him, consequently the good effects of his labours, were not confined to a town or district, but were diffused over distant countries. The young ladies received the same extensive education as the young gentlemen. He, and the school-masters taught by him, were the great causes of infusing into their delicate and tender minds,

the rudiments of the good sense and erudition, for which our ladies during this age, have been remarkable.

He never allowed the desire of founding a play-school, which was to be taught on the principle of amusement, to depart from his mind. He wished the idea of drudgery, and the fear of the rod, to be banished from places of junior education. The system of domination had long been practised, in the great schools in cities, and through every gradation down to the pedagogue, who taught in the thatched hovel, or the country barn. He therefore perceived, his newly projected plans had the prejudices of his countrymen to combat; a dawn of hope rose in his mind, by supposing that he might find in a large town some individuals whose tender feelings, and discernment, would induce them to pay attention to his schemes, and give them a fair trial. The situation of Belfast, and the few friends he had gained during his short stay in it, determined him as before related to settle in it. The late Henry Joy encouraged him, by sending as his first pupil his daughter Ellen, afterwards Mrs. Tomb, who made such proficiency under Manson's mild and gentle tuition, that she very soon became useful to her father, as assistant, in comparing manuscripts, and in correcting the press. That his scheme might have a fair and impartial trial, he at first admitted into his school those only, who had not been taught the alphabet.

He laboured 18 months in Belfast before he had 20 scholars. His success with these was equal to his wishes. The children had made great progress, and were under perfect discipline, although they never had been chastised, on account of negligence, or inattention to their books.

After 18 months his scheme appeared rational, and his success great: some who had contracted an aversion from their books, because they had been forced to them, by severe correction, were admitted into his school. To these he at first paid little attention, but allowed them to enter cheerfully and heartily into the amusements of the school, little connected with literature. These attended cheerfully, but for some time declined entering into a class, or reading when proposed to them, as a favour, even such seeing the honours conferred upon children who paid attention to their books, and who read with alacrity; and hearing of the disrespect due to such as were ignorant, and consequently inattentive, after a few months, requested the favour of a lesson.

Having at length gained his end, and demonstrated the utility of his scheme, he had such a number in his school, who were so fond of their books, and so exemplary, as to put any idle and irregular boys out of countenance; he admitted all into it who desired improvement in the English language.

Manson's Publications.

In teaching large companies, he found a very large alphabet necessary; he caused such to be printed with a new type upon a fine large sheet: and put up as a picture upon the side of his own desk, or upon a wall of the school room; so that each child might distinctly see each letter.

He next got the monosyllables commonly found in primers and spelling books, printed on four large sheets, and fixed to the sides of a square-box, placed upon his desk. The first company of the lowest class, and the second company of the same attended, and learned the natural sound of the letters, and to spell

two or three hundred words, before they were perfect in the alphabet.

His penetration soon pointed out to him the necessity of school-books, upon a plan different from any before in use. As children spend much time in learning to spell monosyllables, he imagined that a primer printed upon good paper would save larger books, and would be otherwise useful, and that such little ornaments might be added to the covers by the binder, as would make them more pleasing to the children of the low class.

His spelling-book, upon a similar plan, was next published. It contained tables from monosyllables up to polysyllables, and many reading lessons, entertaining and useful to children. The words in his primer and spelling-book were so arranged, that children could not be induced from the sound, to spell them by rote.

As the custom of spending the evening at cards even then prevailed, and as children were generally amused with old packs, he thought of turning this custom to the advantage of his pupils, and had spelling, reading, and numerical cards, printed, that his pupils might be induced as an evening play, to read, spell, and do easy accounts. On these cards most of the common games could be imitated.

That he might teach his pupils to know, the meaning of the words by which the elegant sentiments of the English authors were expressed: He published a dictionary containing the most useful words in the language, properly accented, and the long and short syllables marked, and the most plain and proper meanings adjoined. Many cheap editions of this work have been printed and sold at first cost, without any emolument to the author.

That his pupils might learn to express their sentiments with grammatical precision, he composed a short and easy introduction to English grammar, and prefixed a copy to each Dictionary of the first edition.

Manson's intended publications.

When Sheridan's pronouncing dictionary appeared, he enlarged his own, and made it a perfect spelling and pronouncing dictionary, without any addition to the price of the former editions, which prevented the publication of this useful work, because no printer would engage to publish it at so low a rate; it still exists in its improved state. The title is; *"A complete Pronouncing Dictionary, and English Expositor*, particularly calculated for the use of schools, being printed in a larger letter, and having more concise and familiar explanations, than any book hitherto published, being also an excellent pocket companion for young people, tradesmen, and others who desire to speak, read and write with propriety and elegance. The fourth edition corrected, improved and considerably enlarged, and adapted to Mr. Sheridan's pronunciation, by David Manson, school-master in Belfast."

That he might improve the condition of our linen weavers, he wrote a system of agriculture, in which he demonstrated in opposition to Arthur Young's opinion, that linnen weavers need not be confined to large towns, but might hold small farms of land, and follow their trade, with advantage to their own health, and profit to their country. In this little treatise he described the most convenient dimensions of dwelling houses and offices. The best form and dimensions of the farms, and of the fields; the most profitable inclosures, and manures, for every kind of soil; and the most proper methods of cultivating them.

Manson's School.

When his pupils increased to a very great number, he found it necessary to divide them into three different classes, and to accommodate them with three different school-rooms. The first class was taught by himself, the other two by assistants; each class was divided into two companies.—When the low class, by many diverting methods, were taught the letters as before related, they were then taught to spell the tables in the primer, alternately, with those on the box, before mentioned; they got a reading lesson alternately with the tables. When they could read and spell the primer well, they were then allowed to get the spelling book, and were taught in it, the greatest part of the winter season. The first company of the low class, was then advanced to the second company of the second class, and the second company of the low class became the first of the same. The low class was recruited by beginners in the spring.

In the second class, they who were deficient in spelling off book, were allowed to spell a considerable time on book, and to read lessons in the spelling-book, *Liliputian Magazine*, and in some other easy and diverting books. They committed to memory, the catechisms, and divine songs for children at home; and repeated them in school before breakfast. The tutor explained any words in the reading lessons which they did not understand: after several repetitions the best scholars were enabled to do it themselves.

When the first company of the second class had acquired a thorough knowledge of the spelling-book tables, they were promoted to the third company of Mr. Manson's own class. In this they entered the dictionary and grammar, and read-

ing easy English classics. As they advanced in the knowledge of the dictionary, and in reading, they were promoted to the second company, and at length to the first of the master's class.

Each class-room was furnished with the master's seat, a high and low chair, and two rows of seats; the chairs were seats of honour, he who obtained the high chair was dignified with title of chancellor, and he who obtained the low chair, was for the time, vice-chancellor.

In the morning the high company took the front seat, the second the back seat, on the right hand, and the third, that on the left; each company had the front seat, by turns as they read. The right hand was most honourable in the front, the left the most honourable in the back seat. The space behind the seats was the apartment allotted to idle boys to stand in. They had the title of the *trifling club*.

Rules of discipline in Manson's morning school.

The morning lessons, as catechism, divine songs, or grammar, were all said or repeated before breakfast; being committed to memory at home. Each being at liberty to take the quantity agreeable to his inclination. The boy or girl, who said the longest lesson, not less than 24 lines; got the title of king or queen. They who said 20 lines or more, of prince or princess; 16 or upwards of dukes or dutchesses; 12 or upwards of lord or lady.—These were all members of the royal society, and each got a ticket marked F.R.S.

They who made an unseasonable noise in school, or were deficient in spelling, lost their tickets.

The king and queen got two tickets each, and lost but one for the above faults. He who returned

ten tickets, unsoiled, got half a guinea medal.

They who said eight lines or upwards were called tenants: they who said four lines and upwards were undertenants: they who could not say four lines without missing, or absented themselves till the morning lesson was over, had the dishonourable title of sluggards. The members of each company took their seats, according to their stations as king, prince, duke, &c.

Rules in the Day-school.

When the scholars assembled after breakfast, the king of the class read a morning prayer, the rest behaving with suitable gravity. The teacher read the lesson first, with an audible voice; the whole class following the line, on their own books. Then the high company, read from the highest to the lowest; the other two companies following the line. The second company read in the same manner, the low company following the line. The high company (after proving each other in spelling a column of the dictionary, or book) got the explanation of the spelling or next reading lesson according to their inclinations; till the two low companies had all read; while the low company read the second got the spelling and meanings as above, when the forenoon's reading lesson was over, a story or an entire piece of poetry, was read, by those who said the lesson without word or stop. Each person had the privilege of reading a page, but was put out at the first period after missing.

Each class had its chancellor and vice-chancellor. The chancellor sat in the high chair, to explain the hard words, which occurred in the lessons, and the vice-chancellor, in the low chair, to correct the reader,

The chancellor might explain a word at every stop, higher than a comma; this being no interruption to a reader. Any person in the same company might win the chair, by explaining a word in the foregoing sentence, after waiting half the time the reader should stop. Whoever explained a word in favour of the chancellor, was not allowed to speak again in the same lesson. The chancellor was under the like penalty, if he spoke along with one who gave him proper time, any person who spoke after another had begun, was likewise under the same penalty, so was he who offers to keep, or take the chair by foul play. When the company had all read, the chancellor, and vice-chancellor, if they were members of the royal society took the head of the seat; if otherwise they sit at the head of the commons.

The vice-chancellor told the next word, when the reader stopped without a proper mark; which is a blemish in the reading, and prevents his advancement. If the reader neglected to make a stop, when there was a mark, the vice-chancellor bade him count the time of the stop, which he must do, below his breath, and then proceed from that stop. If he missed, or miscalled words, he told him his error, and made him read it properly. These corrections were made instantly without waiting for a stop. If the vice-chancellor neglected his duty, any other person in the same company, might make the proper correction, after a short pause, and so win the low chair. The penalty for silence is inflicted here in the same manner as he who had lost the privilege of gaining one chair, must not speak for the other. They who read without missing, took place of all the rest, except the chancellor, and vice-chancellor. They who left their seats, or neglected their

business by idleness, or foolish tricks, were sent to the trifling-club; where they stood, and followed the line till they had proper partners. They of the low company rehearsed the reading and spelling lessons on the book, to partners of the higher companies, till they said one of them without missing, and then got to their seats. They of the second rehearsed to the high company, in the same manner, or rehearsed the low company, till they told 5 words, and then got to their seats. They who misbehaved in the club, must continue there till they went through the above course, once for every instance of misbehaviour. Such as continued in the club till the 2d company had done reading, got a *ba* or a *hiss* from the whole class; while they marched along the company to their seats.

To indefatigable diligence in his schools, he added exercise of benevolence in the vacant hours. He took a small farm near town for the amusement of his little guests, and called it *Liliput*. There he built a house, and formed a bowling-green, for the amusement of good boys.—He constructed a machine by which he could raise persons above the top of every house in town, for an amusing prospect. Convinced of the utility of teaching girls to spin flax with both hands, he invented a wheel, which being turned by one man, moved a great number of spindles, at the same time; this gave an opportunity to the learner to pay attention to her hands, without the trouble of attending to the motion of the feet likewise. This wheel is still in the Belfast poor-house.

He had a carriage constructed for the exercise and amusement of his boarders and good scholars, as described in Emerson's *Mechanics*, which was moved by a crank within the body of the machine, without any other moving power.

He died the 2d March, 1792, in the 66th year of his age, and left no family. He was interred privately in the burying-ground of the old chapel of ease, in Belfast.

If ever a man merited well of his country, for benevolence, and exertions in favour of the best interests of it, the education of its youth, MAN-

SON deserved well. Are monuments erected, and poems composed to the memory of ruffians, and tyrants? and neither a stone raised, nor an epitaph composed to the memory of the good, the generous, the beneficent MANSON: the best friend to the rising generations of his time!!!

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

PUBLIC EXECUTIONS.

THE following account of an execution at Paris, extracted from *Causes Celebres*, exhibits in a strong point of view, hardened audacious guilt, false compassion, and especially the error of attempting to represent persons guilty of crimes suddenly converted into imagined saints, by the machinery of fanaticism.—Madame Tiquet, the wife of a banker, a woman of notorious intrigue, and dissipation, formed a project to rid herself of her husband, in order that she might marry her gallant. During three years after the first conception of this project, she made three several attempts to carry it into effect, all of which failed, but without exposing her to a discovery. At last she bribed her porter to assassinate his master, at a time and place appointed, and on the very evening of the execution, she was present at a large company, where she was remarked to lead the conversation expressly to the subject of her husband, observing that she had no reasonable expectations of happiness, considering his age and state of health, which promised him long life, and herself an indefinite period of subjection. The attack was made as concerted; and on her return home, Madame Tiquet was inform-

ed, that her husband had been wounded, but not killed, by a pistol-shot, and that on his examination by the magistrate, as to the cause of the assault, he affirmed, that he knew of no enemies he had in the world, *except his wife*. The result of this examination was publicly known, nevertheless Madame Tiquet paid a visit the next day at the same house where she had been on the fatal night, and where, though every eye was fixed on her with horror, her countenance remained unaltered. That evening, one of her friends came to her, from motives of compassion, and conjured her to make her escape while yet in her power, as she was about so be arrested in her own house upon suspicion. "Those who are justly accused," she answered, "should fly—the innocent have nothing to fear." Not long after, the lieutenant-criminal entered with a body of police-officers. "You might have dispensed with this attendance," she coolly observed, "I should have been equally ready to obey you, had you come alone." By the law of France an assault, with intent to commit murder, was capitally punishable, both on principal and accomplices. Madame Tiquet was shortly after fully convicted on the evidence of

her instruments, and condemned to lose her head. After sentence past, she continued in the same state of tranquillity to the moment of her execution, and even composed verses full of religious expression, (though she was a notorious *esprit fort*.) in many passages very poetical, and full of masculine energy, on her approaching fate. No horror of the crime for which she suffered, no indignation at the detestable hypocrisy, or more detestable indifference of the sufferer, appear to have mixed themselves with the compassion and admiration which her youth, beauty, and uncommon fortitude, universally excited. Not only was this abandoned woman attended on the scaffold by a confessor, who publicly exhorted her, "to look up to that heaven which she was about to enter—to drink the bitter cup, in imitation of her Saviour and Redeemer—to estimate her momentary suffering only as the cheap purchase of everlasting life"—but long after her death, the circumstances of her fate became the general topic of praise and admiration in all companies, and funeral orations were composed in her honour by abbés and academicians, celebrating the heroism of her character, her exemplary resignation, her extraordinary self-possession—nay, even the *courage* which prompted her to persevere for years together in so daring an enterprise, without suffering a moment of weakness to betray the agitation of her mind, or unsettle the fixed purpose of her resolution.

Huet relates, that a Swedish peasant observing the courage and composure with which men met their fate upon the scaffold, and the certainty of heaven, which was always promised them by the priest, who attended at their execution, committed a capital crime for the mere

purpose of attaining so enviable a state.

The selector of this article heard a man of respectability, and of strong orthodoxy, adduce as an argument in favour of capital punishments, that persons executed were more likely to enter heaven, than many others, because so much more pains were taken to prepare them for death. Without presuming to pry, into secrets which are hid by an impenetrable veil, such a sentiment must be referred to strong prejudices to a favourite scheme. The supporters of such doctrine, often unawares to themselves, are sapping the foundation of morality, and encouraging the commission of crimes.

CHINESE, TURKISH, AND EUROPEAN LIBERALITY CONTRASTED.

One of the Chinese emperors carried his hatred of the press so far, that in his reign, about 200 years before Christ, he ordered a general conflagration of books in his vast empire. Tyranny could in that country enforce its edicts, and many valuable works have been in consequence lost to science. Omar the caliph of the Saracens is said to have ordered the burning of the Alexandrian library, on the principle, that if these writings agree with the Alcoran, styled by them the book of God, they are useless, and need not be preserved: if they disagree, they are pernicious, and ought to be destroyed.

Many modern bedarkeners are of similar dispositions with these chiefs, or if they would not go so far, they wish only to burn all books which contain opinions different from their own. It is happy for the world, that such men have not unlimited power: they are to be pitied for their mental blindness: it is in vain to reason with them: they must continue to

grope in the dark. Certain sectaries abuse learning, under the undefined name of "vain philosophy," and are actuated by a disposition exactly similar to that intolerance, and illiberality, which was displayed by the Chinese Emperor, and by Omar. Bigotry accommodates itself to all circumstances, and lends itself with equal facility to the professors of different faiths.

IMPROVVISATORI.

Italy has always been celebrated for the talents of its Improvvisatori, or extempore poets. Throughout Tuscany, in particular, this custom of reciting verses has for ages been the constant and most favourite amusement of the villagers and country inhabitants.

At some times the subject is a trial of skill between two peasants; on other occasions, a lover addresses his mistress in a poetical oration, expressing his passion by such images as his uncultivated fancy suggests, and endeavouring to amuse and engage her by the liveliest sallies of humour. These recitations, are delivered in a tone of voice between speaking and singing, and are accompanied with the constant motion of the hand, as if to measure the time, and regulate the harmony; but they have an additional charm from the simplicity of the country dialect, which abounds with phrases highly natural and appropriate, though incompatible with the precision of a regular language.

Roscoe's Life of Lorenzo de' Medici.

JUST REPLY OF A NEGRO.

A free negro of Pennsylvania, suspected of having stolen goods in his possession, was taken before a magistrate, and charged with the offence. He knew the goods to be stolen; he confessed the fact. "Massa justice, me know me got dem

things from Tom, dere, me tinke Tom teal dem too; but what den massa? Dey be only a piccaninny corkscrew, and a piccaninny knife, one cost six-pence, and tudder a shilling, and me pay Tom honest'y massa."

A very pretty story truly! you know they were stolen, but excuse yourself by saying you paid for them! I will teach you better law than that, sirrah! Dont you know Juba, the receiver is as bad as the thief.—You shall be severely whipped you black rascal you."

"Very well, massa, if de black rascal be whip for buying de stolen doods, me hope de white rascal will be whip for de same ting as Juba, when me tatch him.

"To be sure, rejoined his worship."

Well den, here be Tom's massa, hold him fast massa Tonstable; he buy Tom, as I buy de piccaninny knife, and de piccaninny corkscrew: he know very well poor Tom be stolen from his fadder and mudder, de knife and de corkscrew have nedder—de no tink."

Whether the justice, or the severity of the application, operated upon the feelings of the accuser and the magistrate, is not mentioned; but Juba was dismissed without the threatened punishment.

A LACONIC PETITION.

Clement Marot, a valet de chambre to Francis I. king of France, was frequently in extreme indigence; he once presented the following concise petition to his prince. "May it please your majesty to bestow something on me, to buy books and food. If recollection may supply the want of books; the want of food admits of no expedient."

THE DIFFICULTY OF EXPLAINING, AND THE FACILITY OF ASSENTING.

The late John Wesley used to

relate, that during his residence at Lincoln College, in Oxford; one of the tutors either the logical or the mathematical used to be in the practice, at the conclusion of his lecture of saying individually to the students who incircled him, with reference to the subject that had been treated, "Sir, do you conceive me? And, "sir, do you conceive me?" To save trouble the enquiry had long been answered by the gentlemen in the affirmative. One day however, by mutual consent, it was determined that it should be answered in the negative. When, therefore, the usual question was put, the first gentleman said. "No, sir;"—the second gentleman answered, "No, sir;"—the third gentleman was in the same tone, and so they said all. The tutor confused, pensively applied his hand to his forehead, and after a moment's pause, exclaimed. "*I think I do not conceive myself.*"

MECHANICAL RELIGION.

A gentleman residing at Sarepta, relates the following facts in a letter to a friend:—

"Having observed small wooden windmills fixed at the entrance of the brown felt huts, (of the Calmuc Tartars) I enquired for what purpose they were put there, and was told that they were *praying machines*, on which the owner of the hut causes certain prayers to be written by the Priests, that they may be turned round by the wind, and he thereby be freed from the trouble of repeating them himself. The priests have likewise a very commodious method of expediting their prayers when they have a number of petitions to offer up for the people; they for this purpose make use of a cylindrical wooden box into which they throw the written prayers; and having placed it perpendicularly on a stick, they sit down beside it, pull it backwards and forwards with a string, gravely smocking their pipes while performing the ceremony; for according to their doctrine, in order to render prayer efficacious, it is only necessary that it be put in motion, and it is a matter of indifference whether this be done by means of the lips, of a windmill, or of a cylindrical box."

ORIGINAL POETRY.

TO RALPH.

THY wailing notes remind me of a calf,
Trotting at butcher's foot, (most simple RALPH.)
Which when it's master's face is turned away,
To shew that it trots on,...sings out...baa!...baa!

Henceforth, if you would wish to 'scape disaster,
Of poet's "sense" speak neither right nor wrong,
Make all the *pie* you can...and hold your tongue...
But mark the end of...turning on your master!

Look at your last*,...you'll then I think confess,
Your *Lapses*...nor make another caper:
With a spank, span, new-pen...on fine wove-paper,
Expense was written...which you print *express*.

D'ye think you have, with your "panzotic" whinings?
 A statute equal to the *law of Poynings*;
 Whereby each item in your Magazine,
 Must be by you prepared, before 'tis seen.
 Then, with the item, giving your reply,
 So both, together, meet the public eye.

In days of thralldom you might thus have bounced,
 But now, that law's REPEALED...the right RENOUNCED.
 Under your Brevier skulk...pull down your hood;
 Be TANGIBLE no more...*Sat Verbum*,

FLOOD.

ANALYSIS OF 1810, CONTINUED.

"Annus exactis completur mensibus Orbis."

ONCE more proceed, your matters all in tune;
 Let's analyse the genial month of JUNE,
 Which, tho' abundant in refreshing showers,
 In gentle breezes, and redolent flowers.
 For our inspection little else affords,
 Than, that on long debate in HOUSE OF LORDS,
 The Cath'lic question on the sixth was lost,
 Majority was eighty-six at most.

At STOCKHOLM on the twentieth, it appears
 By SCANIAN records...walking all in tears,
 A great procession following the hearse
 Of the CROWN PRINCE, with dirges sad which pierce
 Their "cloud capped towers"...forth rush a furious band
 Of malcontents,...and urged by vengeance fell,
 Assaulted the procession sword in hand,
 When hundreds perish'd...horrible to tell.

Somehow, or other, in these Northern courts,
 Destiny premature and fatal, sports
 With lives of monarchs...it can scarce be said,
 That male or female,...any die in bed.
 Such baneful diadems, I would not hold,
 For all Golconda's gems...or Quito's gold.

Happy the monarch of the BRITISH ISLES;
 Where freedom blossoms, and where virtue smiles;
 The sovereign in his people's hearts enshrin'd,
 Or old or young will always safety find.

Upon the twenty-first, it seems the power
 Which, erst, had sent SIR FRANCIS to the tower;
 Expired by prorogation of DOM. COM:
 His friends triumphantly to tend him home;
 Assembled in most splendid preparation,
 Resolv'd to show their joy on the occasion.

The BARONET intending no such matter,
 (Tho' had his heart been set on pomp...or pride,
 To gratify it...ne'er was such a tide.)
 Eluded all...and slipped away by water!
 SIR FRANCIS surely, it must be confessed,
 Have what he will...has modestly at least.

Allons mes enfants; come now let us try,
 What mighty matters happen'd in July;
 So many happened...that I'll be curst,
 If I know where to start...for on the first,
 KING LEWIS from his royal chair slipped down,
 (Which it appears he never much admir'd,)
 And, as if of the kingly office tir'd,
 Set off, *incog*....and cast away his crown!
 Leaving his honest squab *wynheers*, to wonder,
 And turn their eyes up, like to ducks, in thunder.

Upon this very day, but somewhat late,
 Alamode de Paris...a most splendid fete
 Was given by the Austrian Plenipo,
 In honour of BONI, and his master's daughter,
 (Who in the marriage trap that day had caught her,)
 His great respect and heartfelt joy to show.

So far so good, but that they might have all room;
 In some new jigmazeeri of a ball-room,
 This fete was held...and lo, while all were dancing;
 Somehow or other...this ball-room took fire,
 And ere the sporting wassallers could retire,
 The flames, like to a torrent, came advancing.

Heavens what a spectacle it was to see,
 Such belles and beaux's endeavouring to flee,
 To get out first each individual strives,
 And rushing headlong on with wild uproar,
 Of rank and sex regardless, choked the door,
 And many pretty damsels lost their lives.
 From this you see that many sad miscarriages
 Happen both at prince's funerals and state marriages.

Upon the ninth, Heaven guard us in such times,
 A man (for many heinous...heavy crimes,
 No doubt it was...what minister could fob it?...
 Printing a libel on the men and horses,
 Who form a corps y'clept the *German forces*!)
 Was clapped in Limbo....called WILLIAM COBBET!

And there as by his mittimus appears,
 He must remain the space of...two whole years,
 And likewise he must pay a thousand pound:
 And then find sureties...who are likewise bound,
 In monstrous sums...that neither man nor beast,
 He libel shall...for two whole years at least.
 Most clear this rogue behoves to go to pot,
 "That truth should be silent, he seems to have forgot."

Methinks I now can hear your impship's say,
 Lord, sir, this special pleading cease, we pray;
 Why all our pages with such stuff you'll cover;
 Come to the point at once, and quit such trash.
 For God's sake say, (and let us have a flash...)
 "I've found some months asleep, and leaped them over."

By way of easement as you go along,
 Tip us, you might, some pretty little song;

Or, as an interlude, might you not look
At some fine lately published new book ;
Then try, like it, another book to make...
.....Suppose—the *LADY OF THE LAKE*.

When you to such book-making trade begin,
Give all your things a monstrous origin ;
Use only terms, and phrases obsolete.
Call every object by an ancient name ;
The less you're understood...the more your fame...
Write most abstrusely, and 'twill make you great.

Make all your lakes, as large as seas,
Turn all your brambles into trees ;
A mile in depth, at least, make all your glens !
Cloath all their sides with wood in store,
Where tree, or shrub, ne'er grew before,
And high as *CAUCASUS*...make all your *Bens* !

Then on your lakes make every boating scene,
Like as you can, to that, where *Egypt's* queen
Came to seduce the famous *Triumvir*.
When, on the *Cydnus* borne by Cyprian gales,
The wanton breezes fill'd her silken sails,
Which *Persius* writing of, makes so much stir.

The muse in this description soars on high,
Her *Pegasus* through æther seems to fly,
But should you chuse in chalking out your scene,
To fix on such a spot as *Lough Katrine* !
Your verse must then in singing of your shallop,
Appropriately trot, or slowly gallop.

Or if you chance to sing of "*ambush'd glen*,"
Touch not on—" *Birnam wood*, or *Dunsinane* ;"
By some fastidious wight it might be hinted
That you preferred old *Shakespeare* to the *Scot*,
Who of the *Clansman* bold, so sweetly wrote,
That blew his whistle, while the sun "it glinted :"

Then to the young heroine of your page
Give senile suiters—"past the middle age,"
To swell the size, and to enhance the price
Affix long notes, old songs, and ballads nice,
To show affinity, take no small pains,
Between "*Scotch* words and those used by the *Danes* ;"
Thus, shall your readers taste, be much amended,
Your book besides, with praise and gain attended.

Or if you meant to rightly play your pins :
Give us a touch at *WINDSOR BULLETINS* ;
And let us have (were it but one) a word
About the tunes on—*HANDEL's* Harpsic'ord.

These you shall have, and with a tanterara,
On the dispatches of Lord *Talavera*—
And much besides, of which old time will tell
Your cases call you now...farewell...farewell.

CALDERONE.

Edenticullo, 26th Feb. 1811.

(To be continued.)

*TRANSLATIONS FROM ANACREON.

III.

BENIGNANT Nature prompt to save,
 In arms to every creature gave.
 The spiral horn, long, tapering, full,
 Crown'd the stern forehead of the bull:
 The steed with swiftscour scour the plain,
 With fins the fishes cleave the main;
 The plump race on pinnions dare
 Ascend the chrystal wilds of air;
 Whilst hung with foam the lion shews
 His gnashing fangs in hideous rows:
 To man, superior far designed,
 To man she gave a taste refin'd,
 An awful, grand, immortal mind. }
 But what, ah what hath nature given,
 To thee? thou hast the best gift of heaven;
 Oh woman say! she gave thee smiles,
 She gave thee soul-ennamoring wiles,
 Gave thee thine inmost heart to speak,
 In crimson blushes on thy cheek:
 She arm'd thee with the potent sigh,
 Kindled the lightning of thine eye,
 And crown'd thee, blest with every grace,
 The sovereign of the human race.

V.

COME, Vulcan, with thy fires embrace,
 And fuse the solid silver mass;
 But neither helm, nor shield prepare,
 For what have I to do with war?
 No—rather let thy master hand
 Fashion the bowl as I command,
 Broad, deep, capacious, to confine
 An ocean of refulgent wine.
 Nor on its figured curve appear
 Orion, or the Northern Bear.
 I little heed what stars arise,
 "I trust the ruler with his skies;"
 But let thy matchless hand design
 The luscious grape, the leafy vine
 With dewy clusters, and unfold
 Young Bacchus form in virgin gold;
 And last, thy noblest skill to prove,
 Cleone, or the queen of love.

VIII.

How sweet the wreath in which combine
 Love's radiant flower and Bacchus' vine;
 O Rose! thy crimson leaves diffuse
 Divine perfumes, and nectar'd dews,
 Within thy tender folds appear
 The treasure'd sweets of earth and air,

* Specimens of a new version of that admired Greek poet, intended for publication.

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXI.

Each charm, each sweet to thee is given,
 Thou pride of earth! thou joy of heaven!
 Whose bloom all other bloom effaces—
 Light Cupid, dancing with the Graces,
 With thy bright gems in many a fold
 Entwines his locks of fleecy gold.
 Come crown me then, and near thy shrine,
 O Bacchus, fired with generous wine
 I'll sing, while roses deck my lyre,
 While roses all my song inspire.
 And thou, dear maid, whose charms de-

mand
 The tribute of Anacreon's hand;
 As thro' the rapid dance we move,
 Inspir'd by music and by love,
 Let clustering roses deck, not hide
 Thy snowy bosom's swelling pride.

XI.

AS late within the Paphian grove,
 A wreath of various flowers I wove;
 I found it's god in still repose
 Cradled within a damask rose.
 With caution, fearful of his sting,
 I seized him by the beating wing;
 And plunged the imp into a tide
 Of sparkling juice, that stood beside;
 Then quaff'd the luscious draught, to
 prove
 The mingled taste of wine and love.
 Too soon the dire effect I found,
 My heart received a mortal wound;
 There Cupid now hath fix'd his nest,
 I feel him fluttering in my breast.

TO-MORROW.

SEE!—where the failing day
 In silence steals away,
 Behind the western hills with drawn:
 Her fires are quench'd, her beauty fled,
 With blushes all her face o'erspread,
 As conscious she had ill fulfil'd
 The promise of the dawn.
 Another morning shall arise,
 Another day salute our eyes,
 As smiling and as fair as she,
 And make as many promises;
 But do not thou the tale believe,
 They're sisters all—

AND ALL DECEIVE!— A. L. B.

AN ANCIENT CATCH.

FYLL the cuppe, Phylippe, and let us
 drink a dram,
 Once or twice about the house, and leave
 where we began;

T

I drink to you, sweet heart, so much as
here is in,
Desiring you to follow me, and do as I
begin,
And if you will not pledge me, you shall
bear the blame;
I drink to you with all my harte, if you
will pledge the same.

EPIGRAM.

Says Dick to Moses (with a laugh)
"Your ancestors adored a calf"—
True, quoth the Jew, but then we're told,
'This calf was made of spid gold;
And thro' the world, friend Dick, you'll
find
Gold is the idol of mankind.

TO A SEXTON.

LET thy wheel-barrow alone,
Wherefore, Sexton piling still,
In thy bone-house, bone on bone,
'Tis already like a hill.
In a field of battle made,
Where three thousand skulls are laid,
There, died in peace, each with the other,
Father, sister, friend, and brother.

Mark the spot to which I point,
From this plat-form eight foot square;
Take not ev'n a finger joint,
Andrew's whole fire-side is there.
Here alone, before thine eyes,
Simon's sickly daughter lies;
From weakness now, and pain defended,
Whom he twenty winters tended.

Look but at the gardner's pride,
How he glories, when he sees,
Roses, Mies, side by side;
Violets in families.
By the heart of man, his tears,
By his hopes, and by his fears,
Thou, old grey-beard, art the warden
Of a far superior garden.

Thus then, each to other dear,
Let them all in quiet lie,
Andrew, there, and Susan, here,
Neighbour's in mortality.
And should I live, thro' sun and rain,
Seven widow'd years, without my Jane;
O Sexton—do not then remove her
Let one Grave hold THE LOV'D AND LOVER.

A. B.

HYMN.

(BY MRS. B.D.)

"Ye are the salt of the earth."

SALT of the earth, ye virtuous few,

Who season human-kind;
Light of the world, whose cheering ray,
Illumes the realms of mind.

Where mis'ry spreads her deepest shade,
Your strong compassion glows;
From your blest lips, the balm distils,
That softens human woes.

By dying beds, in prison glooms,
Your frequent steps are found;
Angels of love!—you hover near,
To bind the strangers wound.

You wash with tears the bloody page,
Which human crimes deform;
When vengeance threatens, your pray'rs
ascend,
And break the gathering storm.

As down the summer stream of vice,
The thoughtless many glide,
Upward you steer your steady bark,
And stem the rushing tide.

Where guilt her foul contagion breathes,
And golden spoils allure,
Unspotted still your garments shine,
Your hands are ever pure.

When'er you touch the poets lyre,
A loftier strain is heard,
Each ardent thought is yours alone,
And every burning word.

Yours is the large expansive thought,
The high, heroic deed;
Exile and chain to you are dear,
To you 'tis sweet to bleed.

You lift, on high, the warning voice,
When public ills prevail;
Yours is the writing on the wall,
That turns the tyrant pale.

The dogs of hell your steps pursue,
With scoff, and shame, and loss;
The hemlock bowl 'tis yours to drain,
To taste the bitter cross.

Yet yours is ALL...thro' Histry's rolls,
The kindling bosom feels;
And, at your tomb with throbbing heart,
The fond enthusiast kneels.

In every faith, thro' every clime,
Your pilgrim steps we trace;
And shrines are drest, and temples rise,
Each hallow'd spot to grace.

And Poems loud in ev'ry tongue,
And choral hymns resound;
And length'ning honours hand your name,
To times remotest bound.

PROCEED...your race of glory run,
Your virtuous toils endure:
You come, commission'd from on high,
And your reward is sure.

*The ladies of Paris having adopted the fashion
of wearing their watches in their bosoms, has
produced the following neat lines.*

AURAIT on choisi cette place
Pour se garantir des filoux ?
Mais elle accroitra leur audace,
Et leur metier sera plus doux.
Mes amis, moi même, je tremble,
Et ne repose, plus de ma main,
Mettre tant de tresors ensemble,
C'est nous provoquer au larcin.

EPIITAPH.

M. D. born June 3d...died Sep. 16, 1803.

SHORT was thy day, sweet babe—but
this will give
A longer space of heav'nly life to live.
Yet, with delight, you drew your balmy
breath,
And the first pain you seem'd to feel was—
death.
Nor death itself could violate thy face,
It's pleas'd expression, and it's placid
grace.
I, now commit thee to a mother's breast,
Where thou shalt sleep, and wake—to be
more blest.
New beams of meaning kindle in thine
eyes,
And a new world excite their glad sur-
prise.
Soon, by your side, shall rise a rustic
tomb,
And the turf heave to give a parent room.
Enough to consecrate this humble bier,
Thy infant innocence—his gushing tear.

In Memory

OF ADAM CRAWFORD, M.D., F.R.S.,
a man of great virtue, and intellectual
worth.
He had a heart always devoted
To the practice of moral duty;
And an understanding always intent
On the discovery of useful truth.
He possess'd that patience of research,
and that boldness of investigation,
Which are necessary to penetrate into the
nature of things;
And he united to these qualities,

An unaffected purity of manners,
That sanctify'd the man
And adorned the philosopher;
Imitating the sublime simplicity of that
nature he delighted to explore.

Various and comprehensive knowledge,
Was in him wisely applied
To the analysis of the elements,
To the explanation of the most important
animal functions,
And to the cure or mitigation of diseases.

With the diffidence of true philosophy,
With the gentleness of real christianity,
The candour of his countenance
Spoke the truth before it was articulated
from his lips;

And the latent fire of his generous spirit,
Broke forth at the approach of tyranny,
vice, or irreligion.

His death may be deemed premature;
Yet he lived to enlarge the limits of human
knowledge,
And to complete the circle of social duty:
An obedient son,
An affectionate brother,
An endearing husband,
A fond father,
An independent citizen
and a steady friend.

He was born at * * * * in Ireland,
in the year 17...
and died in London,
in the year 17...

* The foregoing inscription was proposed
for a monument of Dr. Crawford, to be
erected under the patronage of the late
Marquis of Lansdowne, a design, like ma-
ny promises of the kind, never realized
by performance. Gilbert Wakefield gave
a far better inscription.

* A PASTORAL.

BENEATH the umbrageous shadow of
a shade,
Where glowing foliage on the surface
play'd,
And golden roses fan'd the silver breeze,

* This much admired poem, which is
justly suspected of having long served as
a model, for numerous poetical effusions;
being now very scarce, is reprinted for the
use of our juvenile poets, at the request
of a learned friend.

In many a maze, light echoing through the trees,

Pastora tuned the sweetly panting string,
And ruddy notes thus waked the fluttering spring;

While from the alternate margin of an oak,
A woodland Naiad thus meandering spoke.

PASTORA.

The reed disports upon the sounding thorn,
And Philomel salutes the moon-tide morn;
And buzzing bees poetic from their hive,
In smooth alliteration seem alive:

But ah! my virgin swain is chaster far,
Than Cupid's painted shafts, or sparrows are,
Sparrows that perch like Sappho's on my lay,

Or hop in concert with the dancing day.

GALATEA.

What sound was that which dawned a bleating hue;

And blush'd a sigh? Pastora was it you?
Your notes sweet maid this proverb still shall foil,

"The pot that's watch'd, was never known to boil."

PASTORA.

Ah no! whate'er thou art, or sigh, or word,
Or golden water famed, or talking bird,
Source of my joy or genius of my notes,
Or ocean's landscape stamp'd with lyric boats,

Ah no! far hence thy aromatic strains
Recoil, and beautify our vaulted plains.

GALATEA.

Thy dazzling harmony affects me so,
In azure symmetry I sigh, ah no?

Ah no! ah no! the woods irradiate sing,

Ah no! ah no! with joy the grottoes ring;

Even Heraclitus vocal tears would flow,

To hear thee murmur the melodious no.

Thy voice, 'tis true, Pastora gilds the sky,

But woods and grottoes flutter, in my eye.

PASTORA.

When night pullucid warbles into day,
And morn sonorous floats upon the may,
With well blown bugle through the wilds of air;

I roam discordant, while the bounding hare
In covert claps her wings, to see me pass
Ethereal meadows of translucent glass.

GALATEA.

Magnetic thunders now allume the air,
And fragrant music variegates the year,
Light trips the Dolphin through cerulean woods,

And spotless Tygers harmonize the floods,
Even Thetis smooths her brow, and laughs to see

Kind nature weep in symphony with me.

PASTORA.

This young conundrum let me first propose,
It puzzles half our dainty belles and beaux,
What makes my lays in blue eyed order shine,
So much superior when compared with thine?

GALATEA.

Expound me this, and I'll disclaim the prize,
Whose lustre blushes with Peruvian dyes,
When crowing foxes whistle in their dens,
Or radiant hornpipes dance to cocks and hens,

What makes sly reynard and his cackling mate,

That saved the capitol, resign to fate?

PASTORA.

But see Aquarius fills his ample vase,
And Taurus warbles to Vitruvian base,
See crab-like cancer all her speed assumes,
And Virgo like a maid elastic blooms,

My rose lip'd ewes in mytic wonder stand
To hear me sing, and court my conscious hand.

Adieu my goats! for ne'er shall rural muse
Your philosophic beards to stroke refuse.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Patent of Jonathan Varty, of Liverpool, coach-maker, for improvements in the axle-trees of carriages.

Dated Sept. 1810.

IN making the arm of the axle-tree, I divide the bottom half of the axle-tree into several parts, according to the weight intended to be

carried. I then cut out of the two upper thirds, supposing the under half to be divided into three parts, sufficient to take the bearing of those parts, so that the friction and weight rest only on the sixth part of the axle-tree. The bearing part I leave larger or smaller, agréable to the weight intended to be carried.

In some cases I fix small rollers, two or more, as occasion may require, in recesses cut for that purpose in the bottom of the axle-tree. These rollers turn on their own axis in pieces of steel, or any other hard metal, also fixed in the said recesses. In this case the bottom of the axle-tree must be flattened, in order to throw the weight on the rollers. I then make a groove the length of the arm on the top-side, with small holes through the axle-tree to admit of oil flowing through to supply the axis of the rollers with sufficient moisture. In this case the box or bush must be made with a cap at the point or shoulder, or with caps both at the point and shoulder, to contain oil, as is frequently practised on different principles: or I supply the axle-tree with oil through a pipe, introduced through the shoulder-washer; at the upper end of which pipe I screw a can, cap, or hollow ball, to contain oil.

These several improvements may be used either separately or collectively. In cases where the box or bush is a fixture, instead of cutting away the axle-tree, I make the alteration in the bottom half of the box in the same way as described for the axle-tree. When horizontal axle-trees are used, the arm of the axle-tree should be of the same size at the point as at the shoulder, and the wheel made perfectly upright, without any dish.

In witness whereof, &c.

Patent of Mr. Charles Williams, of Gravel-lane, Southwark, Millwright, for a machine for grinding or cutting malt, splitting beans, or other grain, and various other articles.

Dated, August, 1810.

THIS machine is composed of a horizontal roller of steel or iron, grooved longitudinally on its surface, with channels a little inclined to a spiral direction, and having an angular section, with one side of the angle nearly in the line of the radii of the roller: a piece of steel or iron, hollowed to correspond with the curvature of the roller, and furnished with similar grooves at its concave side, is placed in the same direction with it, at a proper distance, which may be increased or diminished by adjusting screws, that pass from its ends towards the axis of the roller; this latter part may also be formed of a number of cutters or knives, placed in the direction mentioned, and kept tight together by screw bolts passing through them.

Each end of the axis of the roller works in a brass socket, that is capable of a sliding motion at right angles to the axis, in a frame properly fitted for this purpose; at each of these sockets a bent lever is adjusted in such a manner, that a weight on its longer arm tends to press the socket (and consequently the roller) towards the cutters, or hollow grooved bar; and the weight on the lever can be moved closer to or farther from the center of motion, so as to adjust the pressure to the degree desired; by this means if any extraneous body, should by chance get among the corn, which is too hard to be cut, it will force the roller from the cutters, and pass through without damaging the engine, and the weighted levers will immediately bring the roller again to its proper place.

A double wire screen, about three times the length of the roller, is placed above it, inclined towards it in an angle of about 25 degrees; at the upper end of this screen the hopper is fixed, in which is put a wire screen to take out the thickest of the rubbish, of straw and other matters mixed among the grain — Projections from the roller act against a part of the lower end of the screen prepared for the purpose; by which a motion is given to the screen, that shakes forward the malt or other matter; at the front of the hopper a small slider is fixed, to adjust the size of the aperture through which the grain passes to the screen; and the screen is enclosed in a sort of trough, with sides which rise above it; and from one side of its lower end, a spout projects, to clear off the rubbish that is separated from the grain.

The grooved roller may be turned by any power most convenient.

Observation.—This machine is evidently formed on a principle similar to that of common coffee mills. It can only reduce grain to a coarse powder, such as is required for malt, or for feeding cattle, but does not appear capable of grinding sufficiently fine to make flour.

Machine for cutting roots for cattle, articles for dyer's use, or for culinary purposes; invented by Mr. Thomas Newton, of Bridge-street, London.

Truss. Soc. Arts.

This machine is composed of a trough, carved into a circular form, and of five chopping blades united to one handle, one end of which is fastened to a point at the center of the circle, of which the curve of the trough forms a part, and the other end serves as a lever to press the blades downwards into the trough.

Each of the blades is the length of the trough's breadth, and somewhat deeper than the trough, and has two tenants rising from its back, which passing through corresponding mortices in a piece of wood fixed beneath the handle or lever, serve to keep them firmly united to it, and are farther secured by pins which pass through them transversely through holes in the parts of them that project beyond the wooden bed. An iron plate having slits made through it, to admit the blades to pass, and of the same length and breadth as the blades, is by a bar that projects from it, fastened to a hinge beneath the lever, so as to admit the blades to move up and down through the slits, at the same time that it accompanies them in the lateral motion to different parts of the trough, as the lever to which they are attached is moved round the pivot: The use of this plate is to clean the chopping blades from any part of the cut substance which sticks to them; two pieces rise from the tail of the plate at each side of them, which hold a pin that prevents the blades from coming quite through; and a spring is placed between the tail of the plate and the lever, which raises the latter up, and causes the chopping to be performed more speedily, as the hand has only to free down the lever, which the spring raises.

This machine is particularly well calculated for the chopping of sausage meat. Though its value in this latter respect may at first appear inconsiderable, yet the great demand in most towns for that article, and the many hands it requires to make the meat fit for use, will, on enquiry, shew that it is of consequence. Many of the sausage-makers employ four or five men constantly in this business, and frequently three or four hundred weight of

meat is cut up by one horse in a day.

The advantages of this invention consists in saving labour, time, and waste of meat. There are in this machine five knives, which are let into an iron plate, which is screwed to the working bar.

The knives are fastened by bolts passed through them close under and above the plate.

The sliding plate is for the purpose of preventing the meat being scattered; and to this plate are added scrapers; which are screwed underneath, for the purpose of clearing the knives at every stroke.

The spring raises the knives, and enables any person to chop at least twenty-times as much meat in the same time as can be done by the common mode.

The length of the knives being equal to the breadth of the trough, no meat can possibly escape the knives, nor will the meat require so much turning as is usually wanted. If it should require turning, it is easily done by alternately pressing the knives at either end of the trough, sliding them towards the middle.

When the meat is sufficiently chopped, the bar to which the knives are fixed may be lifted entirely free from the sliding plate, by taking the pin out of the guide. Indeed, the whole of the moving apparatus may be turned in any direction as occasion may require.

The same machine is also applicable for cutting fat, suet, &c. previous to rendering them into tallow; likewise to chopping madder and other roots for calico-printers, or as used in their recent state for dyers; also for dividing potatoes, carrots, and other esculent roots for farmers in feeding cattle, and may be made at a moderate expense, is worked with ease by the hand, and, when occasion requires, is easily repaired.

An aquatic sledge, or unsubmersible boat.

M. Badir counsellor of mines, at Munich in Bavaria, has invented what he terms an aquatic sledge, constructed on such a principle that it may be impelled and guided on the water by the rider himself without any other aid. The first public experiment was made with this machine on the 20th of August last, before the royal family at Nymphenburgh, with complete success.—It consists of two hollow canoes, or pontoons, eight feet long, made of sheet copper, closed on all sides, joined to each other in a parallel direction, at the distance of six feet, by a light wooden frame. Thus joined they support a seat resembling an æm chair, in which the rider is seated, and impels and steers the sledge, by treading two large pedals before him. Each of those pedals is connected with a paddle, fixed vertically in the after part of the machine behind the seat, and in the interval between the two pontoons. In front of the seat stands a small table, and behind it is a leathern bag to hold any thing wanted. It is so contrived that it can be taken to pieces in a few minutes, packed in a box, and be put together again in a very short time. This vehicle is far safer than a common boat, the centre of gravity being constantly in the middle of a very broad base; a circumstance which renders upsetting impossible even in the heaviest gale.

It is evidently extremely well calculated for use in taking sketches of aquatic scenery, as also for the diversion of shooting water fowl, in which case the sportsman conceals himself behind a slight screen of branches, or rushes, so as to approach the birds unperceived.

Method of detecting Vitriolic acid in vinegar and sugar of lead in wine.
London Monthly Mag. No. 207.

A small quantity of acetite or sugar of lead dissolved in water, dropped into a glass of the vinegar suspected of containing vitriolic acid, will make the whole white and milky; if this be the case; but if the vinegar be pure it will remain transparent.

Vitriolic acid is on the other hand a no less ready test for discovering acetite of lead in wine; for upon adding a few drops of it, to a glass of wine, if the wine contain acetite of lead it will become turbid, but if not it will remain transparent.

The latter practise, which is used to restore pricked wines, is most injurious to the health, and deserves a most severe punishment. The adulteration of vinegar with vitriolic acid, though not injurious to health, is most destructive to the teeth: and it is probable that the present great frequency of the toothache is occasioned by the frequent use now made of mineral acids and salts in food and medicine.

Stramonium most effectual for the Ashma.

From several papers which have appeared in the London Magazine, it seems now fully ascertained, that stramonium, smoked in a tobacco pipe, gives most certain relief in fits of the asthma.

Stramonium, called commonly THORN-APPLE, grows spontaneously; and in many gardens is reckoned a weed and thrown out: It may be raised by sowing the seed in March and April, on light rich earth, exposed to the sun. The stalk as well as the root, may be used for smoking; and the latter requires no other preparation, but to be dried gradually, have the mould brushed off, and be cut into small pieces. The smoke is to be forced into the stomach by swallowing, without holding the nostrils, or any other efforts. Several cases have been published proving the astonishing effects of this simple remedy; and it is now so much valued, that 24 shillings has been given this year for a pound of it in London, where formerly a large bundle of it could be obtained for three pence.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS,

GREEK.

ARISTOPHANIS Comædia ex optimis exemplaribus emendatæ; cum versione Latina, variis lectionibus, &c. a. Rich. F. P. Brunch, £2. 12s. 6d.

HISTORY.

The Roman History, to the Fall of the Commonwealth; by N. Hooke, esq. a new edition, £5. 5s.

The History of Europe from the peace of 1783 to the present times; by John Bigland, 14. 4s.

LAW.

Holloway's Strictures on the Practise of Attornies, part 4. containing scenes of iniquity unparalleled in the History of Human

Corruption. Three former parts likewise by the same author.

A Practical Treatise on the Rights and Duties of Juries, and on the Criminal Laws of England; by Sir Richard Phillips, 7s.

MEDICINE, SURGERY.

Osteologia, or an Anatomical Description of the Human Bones, with 14 plates, 10s. 6d.

Anatomical Descriptions of the Arteries of the Human Body, illustrated by several coloured engravings, selected and reduced from the Icones of Haller, 15s.

Pharmacopœia Officialis Britannica; being a new and correct translation of the

London Pharmacopœia, 10s. 6d.
 Description of the Treatment of an Affection of the Tibia arising from Fever; by Thos. Whateley, Surgeon, 2s. 6d.
 The Modern Surgeon, or Plain and Rational Rules for the Direction of Practice, 9s. 6d.

NOVELLS, ROMANCES.

A Winter at St. James', or Modern manners; by Mrs. Hamilton, £1.

The Irish Valet, containing Anecdotes of several eminent Characters; by the Late C. H. Wilson, esq. 6s.

The Loves of Celestine and St. Auberts: a Romantic tale, founded on facts; by Charles Phillips, 10s. 6d.

St. Irvine, or the Rosicrucian, a Romance, 5s.

Fatal Ambition, or the Mysteries of the Caverns; by A. N. Forster esq. 15s.

Isadora of Milan, 5 vols. 25s.

The Black Banner, or the Siege of Claugenfurth, a Romantic Tale, 21s.

POETRY.

The old Bard's Farewell, a Poem; by Mr. Jerminham 2s. 6d.

The Lay of the last Minstrel, Travestied, 9s.

TRAVELS.

Travels in the South of Spain, in 1809 and 1810; by William Jacob, esq.

Travels in the Northern parts of the United States, in 1807, 1808, 1809, 1810, with Appendixes; by Edward Aug. Kendall, esq.

Voyages and Travels to India, Ceylon, Red-sea, Abyssinia and Egypt, in 1802-6; by Viscount Valentia, Octavo edit. £4. 4.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Anecdotes of the Manners and Customs of London, from the Roman Invasion to the year 1700, by James Pellicier Malcolm, F.S.A. £3. 3s.

Number 1st of the Dramatic Censor, or Critical and Biographical Illustrations, by I. M. Williams, L.L.D. (to be continued monthly) 2s.

Reflections on the nature and extent of the License Trade, 2s. 6d.

Number 1st of the General Chronicle, and Literary Magazine, 2s. 6d.

By-gone Times and Late-come Changes, or a Bridge-street Dialogue, 3s. 6d.

The Universal Cambist and Commercial Instructor; being a full and accurate treatise on Exchange; including the monies, coins, weights and measures, and paper currency of all trading nations, by P. Kelly, L.L.D. £4 4s.

SELFBAST MAG. NO. XXX,

The Memoirs of Mrs. Mary Ann Radcliffe, in familiar letters to a female friend, 10s. 6d.

The New Annual Register, or General Repository of History, Politics and Literature, for 1810.

A Letter to Dr. Willis, designed to rouse the feelings of a humane nation to the miseries of private mad-houses, by Ann Mary Crowe, 2s.

An exact reprint of Watson's complete Angler, 12s.

A New Biographical Dictionary of the Lives and Writings of the most eminent persons in every age, by Stephen Jones, 6s. 6d.

An Account of some recent Transactions in the colony of Sierra Leone, by John Grant, late member of council in that colony.

The Passions humourously delineated by the late Timothy Bobbin, esq. author of the Lancashire Dialect, with 25 plates, £1 6s.

The Female Speaker—Miscellaneous Pieces, by Anne Barbauld, 5s.

Thoughts on the Emancipation of the Roman Catholics, by Mr. James Crowby, formerly a student in the college of Maynooth, 1s.

Hints for a reform in the Criminal Law, in a letter to Sir Samuel Romilly, 1s. 6d.

A Collection of entertaining Valentines, entirely original, by a Lady, 1s. 6d.

The art of preserving for many years all kinds of Substances, Animal and Vegetable, from corruption—from the French of M. Appert.

Smith's observations on the utility, form, and management of Water Meadows; on draining and irrigating Peat Bogs, and other rural improvements, 8s.

The Florist's Directory: a complete treatise on the culture and management of Flowers, by J. Madocks, £1 1s.

An account of the conquest of the island of Bourbon, with a view of its Agriculture, population, &c. £4 6s.

The General Gazetteer, originally compiled by R. Brookes. M.D. fourteenth edition, 12s.

Practical Electricity, and Galvanism; by John Cuthbertson, 10s. 6d.

Exploratory Travels through the Western Territories of North America; by Zebulon Montgomery Pike, major of the 6th regt. of U. S. Infantry, £1. 16s.

Remarks on the Calamut, or Sacred Pipe; called by the Indians of the Missouri, the Gift of the Sun.

U

A Regent not a King; or Necessity of the basis and limit of Proceedings, in the appointment of a Regent, 1s. 6d.

The Consequence of the French Revolution to England considered, by Wm. Burt, 6s.

Observations on the Natural History, Climate, and Diseases of Madeira; by Wm. Gourlay, M.D.

Notice.—A volume of Poems, by James Stuart, is shortly to be put to press, in Belfast, to be comprised in 170 or 180 pages, price, to subscribers, 7s. 6d. in boards, to be paid for on delivery of the book. Subscriptions are taken in by the respective booksellers, and by others, in several of the towns of Ireland.—Specimens of the poetry have frequently appeared in the Belfast Commercial Chronicle.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

AS a subject of prime importance, we shall notice in the first place, the sentence passed in this month by the court of King's Bench in London, on Peter Finnerty, for a libel on Lord Castlereagh, by which he has been added to the list of those, who are now suffering a long imprisonment in several gaols in England. It may be recollected that in 1809, he accompanied the unfortunate expedition to Walcheren, for the purpose of publishing an account of the transactions there, but was sent home in consequence of orders transmitted from government. Suspecting that Lord Castlereagh had been the cause of this order being issued, on his return he published some severe observations on him, and to account for the minister's enmity towards the author, he adduced some instances of former conduct towards himself in Ireland, and reprobated Lord Castlereagh's general conduct while he was in office in this country, as secretary to the Earl of Camden, and the Marquis of Cornwallis. A prosecution for a libel was instituted against him, and finding he would not be permitted to bring forward the truth of the libel as a justification, he suffered judgment to go against him by default. The law of libel is founded on a curious fiction, that libels have a ten-

dency to provoke to breaches of the peace. Hence arises the strange maxim, that the greater the truth, the greater the libel, and the consequent greater danger of the peace being broken, or as a woman once sarcastically and wittily observed, that a person with a red nose would feel greater anger on being reminded of that circumstance, than if she were conscious that the reproach did not apply to her.

On being brought up to receive sentence; Peter Finnerty adduced an affidavit comprising a number of others, which he had lately collected in Ireland, as to the conduct of Lord Castlereagh in 1797 and 1798, that as he was not allowed to justify, he might have those affidavits received in mitigation. But he was overruled by the court, and sentenced to be imprisoned for 18 months in the gaol of Lincoln, and find security for his good behaviour for five years, himself in £500, and two sureties in £250 each, and be further imprisoned, till that security be procured.

The attorney general in his speech in aggravation of punishment is stated to have asked, who is this Peter Finnerty, who sets himself up against Lord Castlereagh? Leaving this question to be answered by our readers; we will say that there are those who would prefer Peter

Finnerty's feelings on the evening of the trial, and in his prison, to those of the prosecutor, smarting under the exposure, which the reading of those affidavits produced.

"And more true joy exil'd Marcellus feels,

Than Cæsar with a senate at his heels."

But do the people of Ireland, find that nothing more is due to their intrepid supporter, and the unfold- ing of former scenes than bare thanks? Governments do not so reward their advocates, and the people should be no less generous. A man dependent on his literary exertions, must forcibly feel that his means are lessened by imprisonment, and a generous country should so- lace "the prison hours," of those who risk much in vindication of liberty. On the Irish people, Peter Finnerty has strong claims, and we earnestly recommend to them liberally to subscribe to his support.—It is a debt of honour and of justice.

The town of Belfast, and the province of Ulster would act with becoming spirit by early stepping forward to second the exertions making in London, to indemnify him, in promoting an honourable recompense, honourable alike to the receiver and to the donors. *

We are informed that bank of England stock lately rose 10 per cent on the expectation of the pre-

* As subscriptions frequently require only to be once set a going, that they may succeed, and that arranging a plan is sometimes the greatest difficulty, we venture to propose that all who chuse to contribute may send their subscriptions to Robert Tennent, Belfast, John Hancock, Lisburn, and James Nicholson, Beasbrook, near Newry. The sums received, will be acknowledged in this magazine. He who subscribes in proportion to his ability, need not be ashamed of his name appearing with the smallest sum.

For subscriptions already received, see the notice at the end of the Documents.

sent ministry continuing in office, and that the proposal of the Bullion committee to remove the restrictions on paying in specie in two years would not be acted upon.—This is a calculation on a continuance of the present wretched system of paper currency. If left to itself, its duration cannot be expected to be long. A circulating medium not bottomed on the precious metals, contains within itself the seeds of speedy dissolution. In the present advanced state of commerce; any substitutes of iron, lead, and articles liable to continual fluctuations in value, will not answer instead of gold and silver, which from their more stationary value, arising from their scarcity, and a conventional agreement in commercial countries, only possess the stability, which is fitted for the basis of a circulating medium.

Although the apathy of the public may, in great part, be ascribed to its frequent experience of misplaced confidence in political parties, when once they get possession of power, yet we are inclined to think, that this national insensibility to the most interesting subjects, is, in no trifling degree, connected with the now universal substitution of a new *commercial* medium, new we mean, in the extent of its circulation, through all ranks of the community. Every holder of bank notes is a creditor, and becomes, in the ratio of this sort of property he possesses, implicated with the whole system, and interested, from selfish motives, in its stability throughout all its relations and dependencies. When indeed it was in the power of the holders of bank-notes, instantly to receive payment in specie at the bank, a full satisfaction ensued in the mind of the creditor; the power, repressed the will or wish of demanding payment, and gave a self-confidence, all

assurance, a fearlessness, an erectness of mind closely connected with freedom of political opinion; but from the moment the restriction of cash payments took place, the moment that paper was repaid by paper, the public seem to have bent downward into the alarm, and pusillanimity of a debtor rather than of a creditor. "Our all is bound up now in the paper system. Let us shut our eyes and ears against every thing that may shock a system in which we are now involved as partners," and thus the energies of the great Gulliver, or the great GULL, have been tied down to the earth by millions of these Lilliputian cords.

The people, at large, now form the lowest grade of the paper circulation, and are placed, as it were, under a new modification of society. It is not merely the multitude of private banking-houses in every town, we may say village in England, with all their directors, clerks, runners, &c. which have, of late, become attached to *things as they are*, and being incorporated, as it were with the paper firm, if so it may be called, have, in consequence, been transformed into *alarmists*, with respect to the danger of change, and the hazard in making things *as they ought to be*. It is not even those thousands in the middling ranks of life, who wrote, or spoke, or acted for a reform in parliament, and who are now tied by the purse strings to the paper-system, that have shrunk into political *quietism*, and are mere orators-mum in the shifting scene of the day. The primary connection between the minister and the directors of the national-bank, is indited propagated downward through all the ramifications of the paper-system, and all the multiplied private banks, those miniature boards, at which their directors sit in the plumage of office, and often in the pal-

pitation of insecurity. In both states, they become more and more attached to the present political system, and more panic-struck at any movement to a change.

But not only these subaltern orders of men, newly organized throughout the nation, not only these numerous centres of influence, but the national character itself is changed by the same means; and the whole mass of the people, since paper has filled up the whole circulation, partakes of the same tremulous disposition. The British oak, with its massy and wide-stretched branches, has changed into an aspen tree of numerous leaves, shaking fearfully with every passing breeze.

Whatever may be said on the subject, Gold obtains the full faith of the possessor, and a certain pride of mind connected with that confidence, which is favourable to the freedom of political conduct. Guineas are noun substantives. They give a feeling of security, a perfect independence of chance or change, "*in seipso toti teretes atque rotundi*."—Bank-notes are a sort of relatives, that depend on this and that external circumstance—a sort of distrust hangs about them, which even influences character, by inspiring a timidity, or at least a susceptibility of alarm. It is often surprising to what apparently trivial and minute causes, great effects are ascribable, both in the conduct of individuals, and even of large communities. In some situations they will not face the darkest brow of danger. In others, "the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them."

In another point of view, generally in another condition of life, but sometimes (such is wonderful human nature) in the very same individual, this paper system generates a carelessness, a prodigality, a moral depreciation, which precedes,

and then accelerates the money depreciation, and, in both cases, either in that which inspires a sense of insecurity, a feeling of alarm, or in that which lessens the value in the estimation of the individual, in either case, the public becomes a grand pensionary of the system, *all their public sensibilities run in the one direction*, and that an ignoble one; and all the better portions of our nature suffer an exhaustion, a privation of their proper feeling.

It would be a task well worthy of an ingenious pen, to give an essay on the *moral* effects of the paper system, its effects in changing the habits of national manners, and the strong features of national character.

For our parts, we cannot help thinking the effect on the body politic has very exactly corresponded to the effect of inordinate stimulus, or the use of ardent spirits on the individual. The extraordinary issue of fictitious money, has, *for some time*, had the same effect of a real increase of national wealth. It has stimulated speculation in all branches of trade. It has operated too as an universal cordial, a sort of Solomon's Balm of Gilead, which in raising the spirits, has also lulled the various complaints of the country, like a charm. In short, the spirit of speculation, and the spirit of distillation have had the same effects in intoxicating the people, and after the first effects are over, the bankruptcies, the commercial distress, may well be compared to that debility, fogginess of spirits, and those vapourish qualms which too often indicate the progress of inward decay. Indeed we know of no political measure so similar to the paper system in its effects, as that of our Irish chancellor of the exchequer, in passing an Act for which the following words form the best preamble,—

"Whereas it will be useful to the revenue, to keep the good people of Ireland in a state of permanent intoxication, which would drown all their political anxieties, therefore be it enacted, that patriotic potations of whiskey may be purchased at the reduced price of four or five shillings per gallon," &c.

The facility of obtaining discounts seems to have been the great root of the present commercial distress.—Hence the swarm of traders, with little or no capital, thus irresistibly compelled to their own destruction. All the youthful mind went a madding to Buenos Ayres, &c. The manufacturers were kept busy, and all appeared in a state of unexampled prosperity. The gold in the country was sold, while paper was used in its stead, and the profit resulting, certainly gave a new impulse to all sorts of industry. But when the bank of England became at ease in respect to calls on it for specie, the issue of paper overflowed far above all the natural demand of circulation. The bank restriction, or rather licence, was the primary evil which led to the facility of discount, which begot speculation without capital, which looked in vain for vent abroad, and then perished for want of consumption at home.

Now we conclude that the general effect of this paper system is to determine from all other pursuits of national or political concern, into *one direction*; to give a temporary flush of animation to the body politic (as drunkards are apt to call ardent spirits nourishment,) and then, to leave behind a callous insensibility, which always follows unnatural excitement, a prostration of vital power, in short, a *PUBLIC APATHY* as extreme in degree, as novel in its nature.

In our last month's retrospect we brought down the proceedings in

parliament on the Regency to the passing of the bill through the house of commons. In the lords, the restrictions on the prince's authority over the greater part of the household troops, those trained bands of influence, were at first removed in the committee, and afterwards reintroduced on the report to the house through the assistance of the proxies of the absent peers. Thus the bill finally passed, and received the sanction of the great seal, being affixed to a commission for the purpose of expressing an appearance of the royal assent. The prince then entered on his office of Regent. A change of ministry was immediately expected, but the prince declared his intention of continuing the present men in office for some time, till it was seen if the King's recovery was probable. Whether this measure was effected by the prospect of speedy recovery, backed by the earnest solicitations of the Queen, or from the difficulty of arranging a new administration from the discordant materials of the opposition, is not of much consequence to the people. If the present system is to be continued, it matters little to have it conducted by men of some more ability than the present; a radical change and a complete reform can alone avert the dangers of the present crisis. The cautious and persevering impudence of the present men, with all the whimpering, and stage trick of tears, played off in the house of lords, may well enough be set against the hauteur of Earl Grey, the adherence of Lord Grenville to the Pittite system, and the stand of George Ponsonby against popular encroachments. With the struggles of parties the people are little interested; we desire to see a struggle of principles, and the predominance of those which would secure the rights of the people.

There is more cause to dread the systematic encroachments of power, than the ebullitions of popular fervor. But all fears on either side can only be effectually removed, by a wise and prudent settlement, affixing the proper boundaries and limits to each branch of the constitution.

During the discussions in the house of Lords, Earl Grey brought forward instances, grounded on the examination of Dr. Heberden before the committee appointed to examine the physicians on the state of the King's illness, that in 1804 the King had been similarly affected for several months, during which time, while the King was incapacitated, and under the care and control of physicians, many acts had been done in his name, and the great seal affixed to commissions for expressing the royal assent to many acts of parliament. As Lord Eldon had been Chancellor at this time, a motion was made to leave out his name as one of the Queen's council to examine into the future recovery of the King, before he again enters on his regal functions, but notwithstanding the glaring facts of Lord Eldon's former conduct, the motion was negatived.

The common council of the city of London have addressed the Regent. For a few years back this corporation have recovered their former tone, and thrown off the shackles with which for a time they had suffered themselves to be bound in the days of Pitt. As in other addresses lately proceeding from this body, they hold a firm, decided and manly language, and approach with the language of complaint as to the system which has been pursued. — Some expressions in the Regent's answer might appear unfavourable to reform, if we did not consider that circumstanced as he is

with the old ministry he can scarcely be considered to speak his free, open sentiments. He was surrounded at the time of receiving the address by the very men whose conduct was so forcibly reprobated. Their feelings were probably not very soothing on the occasion. The address and answer are put on record among the documents; they may be valuable for future reference. The Prince, much to his honour, has refused the offer of an establishment of a household for the present, from the praise-worthy motive of not adding to the burdens of the people. In another point of view, it was highly proper in him to refuse. The ministry had thwarted his views to retain their power, and now at the expense of the people seek to gain his favour. The rejection of such an offer was in every respect an act becoming an enlightened prince.

We have lately another instance that provincial governments are seldom favourable to liberty, in the governor of Guadaloupe severely re-proving the Attorney General of that island for siding with the people. As this island has been lately captured from the French, and the Attorney General is probably a native, perhaps fears were entertained of some revolutionary lava, yet remaining unextinguished. This dread of liberty by a short-sighted policy, in a great many instances appears to be laying up materials for future combustion.

It is difficult to ascertain with precision, what circumstances may retard or accelerate the progress of the revolution in South America, but sooner or later there can be little rational doubt of its becoming independent of the government of Spain; whether that country should, contrary to present appearance, remain under the feeble administration con-

ducted under the fiction of Ferdinand VII. by assemblies possessing the appearance, but wanting the realities of that energy, which is possessed by the true representatives of the people, or whether it should pass under the wide extended grasp of French ambition. In either case, the independence of South America is a very probable event. If Britain abandoning her usual selfish policy will content herself with leaving the inhabitants of that country to form their own government, without any officious interference on her part, many important advantages may be reaped in the way of trade, but it has been the bane of Britain by a crooked policy to consider all other nations, as if formed for her exclusive benefit, and to treat them only as subservient to her own selfish advantage. To show the capabilities of South America, we give from a new English periodical work, the *Philanthropist*, the following extracts on that subject.

“In point of extent, this region comprising the provinces of South America, which lie most contiguous to Europe, (the whole range of that delightful coast which stretches from the island of Trinidad, to the isthmus of Panama,) is equal to some of the greatest kingdoms in Europe; equal, perhaps, to the ancient kingdom of France. In point of soil, above all, in point of climate and position, with respect to commercial advantages, it is probably unrivalled by any spot on the surface of the globe. The city of Caraccas, for example, stands in a valley, the temperature of which only varies from that of a fine day of an English spring, to that of a fine day of an English summer. A chain of mountains, which intersect the country longitudinally, attains in parts, the height of perpetual frost.

The country is accordingly distinguished for an unexampled variety of productions of the soil; on the sides of the same mountain, and within the journey of a few hours, you find the most delicate and rare of the tropical productions, and the fruits and corns of Europe. In beauty and grandeur of scenery, Humboldt, a well informed witness, declares that it is unmatched by anything which the old world had ever presented to his eye. With regard to commercial advantages, its position, within from thirty to forty days sailing of the most commercial part of Europe; its contiguity to the West India islands and to the United States; its command of the waters of the Orinoko, which afford a communication with so vast a portion of the internal regions of that great continent; and above all the isthmus of Panama, when crossed by that navigable canal, which it will so easily admit, present, when put together so magnificent a picture to the imagination, that it is with some difficulty the mind can regard it as real. It shows like rhetorical exaggeration more than matter of fact. With regard to population (such are the effects of bad government and bad religion) the bill is a wonderfully short one. The number presented in the official statements are very low indeed, not amounting to a million and a half. The real number is probably about a million more. Of these two-thirds are computed to be Indians. The remaining third is composed of Creoles, people of colour, and negroes, the latter, in this part of South America, but happily a small proportion. The Creoles, almost exclusively, are the people of property and education. A population formed of different races is an unhappy circumstance in any country. It is in general one of the most obstinate

causes of disunion; and of absurd preferences and depressions.

"It has not existed without producing of its bitter fruits in the part to which we are now attending of South America. But we have information on which we can rely, that the present extraordinary circumstances of the country have produced extraordinary effects on the sentiments and feelings of the people; have produced a disposition to concede on the part of the more exalted class and to be reconciled on the part of the depressed classes, a disposition which holds out a much fairer prospect than was to be expected, of that union, and amalgamation of the inhabitants, which must form the basis of a good government. In fact, the task will not be a very easy one which wisdom will have to perform in arranging the affairs of South America. But real wisdom may undoubtedly approximate, and it is hard to say how near, to the most desirable regulations."

The isle of France, the last of the colonies of France, has been captured. The garrison are to be conveyed to France, and not to be considered as prisoners of war. If France lose her ships, and her colonies, she has more than a compensation in her unlimited influence on the continent. If her foreign commerce has been nearly annihilated, her powerful exertions against British commerce are producing at present an extraordinary and unexampled depression, and are now severely felt both by Great Britain and Ireland. In a few years, France will probably build her manufacturing system to the exclusion of ours.

We may soon expect some decisive issue to the long protracted warfare in Portugal. What that issue will be, has been often fore-

boded in these retrospects, and the prospect certainly does not at present become any brighter. Poets, who have been proverbially characterised, as dealing in fiction, and who may seek to turn the efforts of their muse to some profit, may find themes of panegyric in the bravery of Irishmen, although they are suffering in an unavailing contest on a foreign shore, and may chaunt the praises of Lord Wellington, but these scenes require other reflections from the bards of freedom, while the politician will condemn, and the philanthropist will lament the unprofitable waste of blood and treasure, the sufferings of the actors, and the folly of the planners in such ruinous expeditions*. This sentiment of disapprobation of the measures adopted in Portugal, remains in full force, notwithstanding the praises put by the ministry into the speech of the Regent in favour "of the consummate prudence and perseverance of Lord Wellington."

The speech of the Regent announces a deficiency in the Irish revenue. This may be considered as a notice of fresh taxes to be shortly imposed. Since the union, the debt of Ireland has increased from 23 to 81 millions. Irish prodigality remains unchecked: the debt increases, and we are again to feel with diminished resources, and a bad trade, the vexations of fresh burdens, and the load of new taxes, while the public mind is still

* It is painful to perceive that poets, who erewhile have sweetly sung in the cause of liberty, should give room to fear, that by falling in with the temper of the times they have turned, or are in danger of turning, apostates to the cause they once so virtuously espoused. If any such there should be, the *graves of liberty* would silently administer self-reproach, and in their own case they might write an *epitaph on the living*. May such see the danger in time, before they are farther ensnared.

farther irritated by the chief secretary's circular letter, reviving the convention act, the offspring of the harsh policy of 1793, so as to prevent the catholics meeting by delegation, to seek for emancipation. We see no prudence in this measure. The catholics at a meeting in Dublin, on the 23d instant, resisted an attempt to disperse them, and maintained their right to meet for the purpose of petitioning. Their conduct was firm, but moderate.

A special commission has been just held in the counties of Tipperary, Waterford, and Kilkenny, for the trial of those guilty of the outrages lately committed in this quarter. Several convictions for outrages committed in that quarter have taken place.

IS IRELAND always, and only, to be seen by Great Britain, and by Europe, through the medium of a judicial procedure? Is a solicitor-general the only person to make an annual exposé, or rather exposure, of the state of this nation? We doubt not of the facts which are detailed, shocking and calamitous as they are, but such men of office do not, we may say *dare not*, proceed one inch beyond their professional commission, in the exposition of causes which have led to these facts, or rather to the *primary* facts themselves.

Perhaps indeed THE JUDGES OF THE LAND might, in such cases, step beyond the verge of a special commission. Perhaps, in the sublime impartiality of their station, elevated as it is, or as it ought to be, above the foggy and foul atmosphere of party politics, looking, and only looking to the full discharge of that sacred responsibility, in which they stand, to their God, to their king, to their country, and to their conscience, (in itself an awful world,) bowing before the real image of

justice, that divinity on earth, as Sheridan has sublimely portrayed her, "august and pure, the archetype of all that is perfect in the spirit and aspirings of man, where the mind rises, where the heart expands, where the countenance is ever placid and benign," (not the *sævus ille vultus et rubor a quo se contra pudorem muniebat*), "where her favourite attitude is to stoop to the unfortunate, to hear their cry, and to help them; to rescue and relieve; to succour and save; majestic from mercy, venerable from utility, uplifted without pride, firm without obstinacy, beneficent in each preference, lovely though in her frown, deliberate and sure, abstracted from all party purpose and political speculation*."—Perhaps, we say, Judges of this higher order of mind, not menial minds, who, by a sudden gust of good fortune, have been raised into a situation, in which they can scarcely look upon their robes, without exclaiming, like Christophero Sly, when he wakened in his bed of state, "how the devil did I get here?"—but men endowed with a reach of thought that can look a long way *before*, and *after*—perhaps we say, *such men*, would not think their duty fully performed in summing up evidence, delivering a charge, giving sentence upon a criminal, and then hurrying to their dinner, but might think it proper, as they decline not to report to the fountain of mercy in the case of the criminal *individual*, to make at this momentous time, a full, clear, and comprehensive report to the LEGISLATURE on the case of their criminated country.

A court of *exchequer chamber* could not be assembled on a more worthy purpose, that, in the high

independence of their impartial offices, and with the experienced utility of special commissions in reaching the source of the evil, to make a thorough developement of the real, though remote causes of these opprobrious insurrections, and rather, far rather, than prompt the re-enactment of the penal code, to stand as a mediatorial and intercessory power between the offended legislature, and the miserable people. And thus to save from the dreadful, and ever to be deprecated visitation of LAW MARTIAL, their native land, their seats of justice, their adored constitution, their liberties, their privileges, and possibly, their lives.

It has been, and it continues to be, our firm persuasion, that the prime remedy for those disgraceful evils, lies in the political emancipation, or complete incorporating adoption of our catholic countrymen; and that until that era arrive, there will be a periodic necessity of these special commissions, which hold up from time to time, such documents of terror and repulsion, to the other parts of the empire. There is a sympathy which takes place throughout the whole catholic body, kept as it is in a distinct state of existence, and, if we may use the term, individualized, the more, by their political exclusion. Far be it from us to suppose that there is the smallest overt, or secret connection of an illicit nature, between the superior and inferior orders in that body. All that we presume to say, is, that the unhappy consequences of a *general* dissatisfaction, may operate as a sort of negative encouragement to these *partial* excesses. The lowest order may deceive others, and perhaps be deceived themselves, into the persuasion, that they too are acting for the common cause; and there is a silence, an inaction, an indifference

* In this description we think we see the lord-chief-justice DOWNES.

among the higher orders, which is, and always will be, liable to misconstruction by the multitude.

No—God forbid that any catholic of any common feeling or understanding, should instigate to such disgraceful acts of licentiousness, but let us, in the common sympathies of our nature, translate ourselves into the catholic bosom, and then, in the closet of our hearts, ask ourselves, shall we, excluded from all trust and confidence in our native land, put forth all our exertions, our utmost efforts, to mollify and assuage, or are we silent and indignant, to stand by, perhaps with a degree of internal satisfaction, at the perplexities and embarrassment of an administration that knows only to repel by punishment, not to concentrate by conciliation. Alas! such is human nature. It will make choice of this latter alternative.

But if, on the other hand, there was a proper, and natural communion of political offices, the satisfaction of the superior orders, would gradually, but not slowly, make its way through the whole mass; a healing process would begin to take place from that instant; an active and efficacious interference and influence of the superior classes of catholics would soon become conspicuous in its effects; and special commissions would be wholly superseded by the uniform and easy application of the usual circuit judicatures. Partial and penal law would then give place to that law, (better entitled to the appellation,) in which the object and the will are both *universal*.

It is not for us to speculate upon the motives which have induced the Prince Regent, instead of acting for himself, and we must add for the people, to act merely as the temporary deputy of his royal father. That people will, we trust, give him the

largest credit for good intentions; and perhaps even *good wishes*, in such a situation might be so far *embodied*, as would, in no small degree, contribute to the salvation of this part of the empire. Nothing we firmly believe is so much wanting, as a *mutual respect* between the two kingdoms, which may remove the haughty contempt, on the one part, and the hoarded hatred on the other.

We are fully conscious, that we are able only to cast a pebble into a pool; but were we powerful to influence the tide of the times, as the moon does the tide of the ocean, we should say to Englishmen—Reverence Ireland, if you have any regard to yourselves; not with that reverence due to boys (*“reverentia sit pueris”*) not that respect due to women, but with that honourable and dignified obeisance, which a man owes to his equal man, which a Briton owes to the co-heirs of Magna Charta.

We anxiously look around for some means that might avert impending miseries. The presence of the Prince Regent himself, for a short season, would do much, but if that be incompatible with duties supposed superior, might not a PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSION be appointed, under the auspices of the Regent, which might repair to Ireland, be fully informed as to its wants and wishes, and then report the truth, THE WHOLE TRUTH and nothing but the truth, to the supreme authority of the empire.—We have had committees on the state of the coin, let us have one on the state of this country. Let not an Irishman be a member of this commission. We should rejoice, as Irishmen and members of the empire, to see five men named on such a commission; for example, Lord Erskine, the Primate of Ireland, Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Whitbread, and

sir Francis Bndett, sacrificing all political and religious differences at the altar of their country, and joining their heads, their hearts, and their best endeavours really to accomplish an honourable and faithful union between *the yet discovered* portions of the empire.

On the whole there is, we think, subject for hope, that even the *personal* influence of the prince, may infuse a spirit of amity, and conciliation into the measures of government. We think we can discover several symptoms of this more moderate tone, in the speech of the Regent to parliament, particularly with respect to America. Lord Liverpool in *his* speech goes so far as to observe, "In the maintenance of our own rights, some incidental effects might take place, but these were merely *incidental*, and never directed against any particular power whatever."

If this passage alludes to the new interpretation of *blockade*, which extends the application of that term to an indefinite line of coast, before restricted to the place actually invested, it certainly seems a striking infringement on the rights of a neutral power, and America appears to be, at present, the only neutral, and therefore the particular power only meant in Lord Liverpool's observation. The *power* of the British navy is so great and extensive, that it has in this, as is too often the case, been taken for the *right*, and the maritime rights, or powers (for they appear synonymous) which Britain lays claims to, in issuing an interdict of all trading communication with any extent of coast or country she may think proper, by an order of council, to designate, appears completely to place all the rights of the neutral, under the will of the belligerent, indeed to annihilate them altogether.

America *hitherto* appears to have held an impartial, and by no means a fraudulent neutrality; she has not associated herself in the war, nor given warlike succours to one of the belligerents in prejudice of the other. She therefore claims in all articles not contraband, that is, in all commodities not particularly used in war, that liberty of trade which is the result of the law of nations, and which forms the acknowledged right of *neutral* states. But the truth is, that in the progress of war, not only the usual signification of words, but the natural distinction of things is, lost or forgotten.

As right and power are confounded by the all-powerful, so it soon happens, that common goods which have no relation to war, are no longer distinguished from those peculiarly subservient to it; whole coasts are put under an arbitrary and illegitimate blockade; and all trade is prohibited as much as if *contraband*, from a *whole territory*, as it used to be from a *besieged town*, and thus in the end, *neutrality* loses its appropriate meaning. In this confusion of words, and things, the spirit of hostility, far from relating solely to military transactions, is carried into the *whole reciprocal intercourse* of nation with nation, and of man with man. Thus the independence, the rights of sovereignty, and supreme dominion of the neutral nation, become compromised; The neutral is placed in the state of a passive belligerent, suffering all the inconveniences of a state of hostility, in regard to its intercourse with other nations, without any expectation of benefit from the result of the war.

If then the maritime rights of great Britain necessarily include this right of indefinite blockade, we know not how it is possible to prevent America, who protests against

this latter right or claim as contrary to the law and usage of nations, from falling into the scale of France, renouncing her neutrality and conspiring in the non-import agreement of the European continent—the great object of Bonaparte. But from Lord Liverpool's declaration abovementioned, we should hope, that this system of paper blockading, as it is called in America, is to be modified away, and then, and then only, we shall have ground to renew the relations of amity with that power.

DOCUMENTS.

LONDON ADDRESS TO THE PRINCE REGENT.

TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES, REGENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

The dutiful and loyal Address of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in common council-assembled.

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,
 "We, the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Commons of the city of London, in Common Council assembled, most humbly approach your Royal Highness with the warmest assurances of the affectionate attachment to your Royal Person, and unshaken adherence to those sacred principles which seated your family upon the throne of this realm; fully convinced that those principles afford the best security to the honour and dignity of the sovereign, and the rights and interests of the people.
 "Whilst we offer to your royal highness our sincere condolence upon the severe visitation with which it has pleased divine providence to afflict our most gracious sovereign, which has occasioned a suspension of the royal functions, it is with heart felt consolation, that, in common with all ranks of our fellow-subjects, we behold in the person of your Royal Highness a prince highly endowed, and eminently qualified to exercise the regal duties... a prince who has so greatly endeared himself to the people, by his moderation and forbearance on various trying occasions, and the attachment he has so uniformly shown to their rights and liberties.

"Had indeed the desire and expectation of the united kingdom been realized by vesting in your royal highness the full powers of the executive authority, we should have had just cause for congratulation, confident as we feel that those powers would have been wisely and beneficially exercised, to enable us to meet the extraordinary exigencies of so perilous a crisis.

"Deeply impressed with a sense of the many and great difficulties, which, with powers so limited, your royal highness must have to encounter in the discharge of duties so arduous, and feeling towards your royal highness the fullness of that loyal affection, which, in deeds as well as in words, we have so long demonstrated towards your royal father and family, we would fain have forborne to cloud the dawn of our intercourse with your royal highness by even a glance at our grievances, manifold and weighty as they are, but duty to our sovereign, duty to our country, the example of our forefathers, justice to posterity, the fame and the safety of the kingdom, all, with voice imperious, forbid us to disguise our thoughts or to smother our feelings.

"Far be it from us, insulted as the corporation of this ancient (and at all former times, respected) city has recently been by the servants of the crown; far be it from us to indulge in complaints of grievances peculiar to ourselves, ready and willing as we are, to share in all the necessary burdens and all the dangers of our country. It is of general grievances, grievances sorely felt in all ranks of life; of accumulated and ever accumulating taxation, rendered doubly grievous by the oppressive mode of exaction, and of the increased and increasing distress and misery therefrom arising, of the improvident expenditure of the immense sums thus wrung from industry and labour; of the waste of life, and of treasure, in ill-contrived and ill-conducted expeditions; of the attempts, which for many years past, and especially within the last three years, have been made, and with but too much success, to crush public liberty in all its branches, and especially the liberty of freely discussing the conduct of public men, and the nature and tendency of public measures.

"Can we refrain from humbly expressing our complaints, when we have seen those ministers who have so long usurped

the royal authority, and who, it is now discovered, have, by practising the most criminal deception upon the parliament and the people, carried on the government during his Majesty's former incapacity, exerting their influence to degrade the kingly office—when we have seen measures adopted, evincing the most unfounded jealousy and mistrust of your royal highness—when we have seen the prerogatives of the crown curtailed and withheld—when we have seen a new estate established in the realm, highly dangerous and unconstitutional, when we have seen power, influence, and emolument, thus set apart to controul and embarrass the executive government at a time of such unprecedented difficulty—when all the energies of the state are necessary to enable us to surmount the dangers with which we are threatened, both at home and abroad—we confess that, feeling as we do the most unbounded gratitude to your royal highness, for undertaking these arduous duties at a moment of such peril, and under such circumstances, we can discover no cause for congratulation, on the contrary, we should be filled with dismay and the most alarming apprehensions, were it not for the known patriotism and amiable qualities, which your royal highness possesses, and the resource which we trust your royal highness will find, in the zeal, ardour, affection and loyalty of a free and united people.

“Numerous other grievances we forbear even to mention; but there is one so prominent in the odiousness of its nature, as well as in the magnitude of its mischievous consequences, that we are unable to refrain from marking it out as a particular object of our complaint and of your royal highness' virtuous abhorrence—the present representation in the Commons House of Parliament, a ready instrument in the hands of the minister for the time being, whether for the purposes of nullifying the just prerogatives of the crown, or of insulting and oppressing the people, and a reform in which representation is, therefore, absolutely necessary for the safety of the crown, the happiness of the people, and the peace and independence of the country.”

“Reposing the fullest confidence in your royal highness' beneficent views and intentions, we can only deplore the present unfortunate state of things, fully relying that under circumstances so nov-

el and embarrassing, every measure which depends personally upon your royal highness will be adopted towards extricating us from our present difficulties, and for promoting the peace, happiness and security of the country.

“Thus to mingle our expressions of confidence and affection with the voice of complaint is grievous to our hearts; but placing as we do, implicit reliance on the constitutional principles of your royal highness, we are cheered with the hope, that such a change of system will take place as will henceforward for a long series of happy years, prevent your royal highness from being greeted by the faithful and loyal city of London in any voice, but that of content and of gratitude.

Signed by order of court,
“HENRY WOODTHORPE.”

To which address his royal highness was pleased to return the following most gracious answer:—

“I thank you for the assurances of your attachment, and of your confidence in the sincerity of my endeavours to promote the welfare and security of his majesty's dominions, by the faithful administration of those powers with which I am entrusted during the lamented indisposition of the king.

“In the arduous situation in which I am placed, I can assure you that it will be the happiest moment of my life, when by the blessing of providence, I shall be called upon to resign the powers now delegated to me into the hands of my beloved and revered father and sovereign.

“My own disposition, no less than the example of my royal father, will make me at all times ready to listen to the complaints of those who may think themselves aggrieved; and will determine me on all occasions to regulate my conduct upon the established principles of that antient and excellent constitution, under which the people of this country have hitherto enjoyed a state of unrivalled prosperity and happiness.”

SUNDAY SCHOOL—We feel much pleasure in publicly noticing an Institution in this town, which is as honourable to its founder and supporter, as beneficial to the objects of his exertions; we allude to the Sunday School established by Mr. William Booth, in Union-street. Mr. Booth is a native of England, and although he has been but a short time in Ireland, has at his

ridual expense, and by his own personal attention, established a school whereabout 120 children are educated upon Lancastrian plan, which, in some respects, Mr. Booth has indeed improved upon. Premiums of bibles and testaments distributed at Christmas, among the deserving of the children; all of them are making a rapid progress in reading and writing. We have no hesitation in highly recommending this infant establishment to the notice and patronage of the respectable inhabitants of Belfast, whose generosity, we are confident, will not leave entire barthen of so useful an Institution to be sustained by a benevolent stranger, whose unobtrusive and modest exertions, give him a double claim upon their gratitude.

The above was written and inserted in Belfast newspapers, without the personal knowledge of Mr. Booth: and it was only a just tribute of praise to a very worthy man, consequent upon his very interested and benevolent exertions, and with a view to excite the observation and notice of the inhabitants of Belfast, in behalf of so praiseworthy an institution. I am sorry to say that both these objects have miserably failed, owing to the unaccountable stupidity of our townsmen, upon so interesting an occasion.

A. T.

It affords satisfaction to us to make pages the register of the progress of the work of diffusing education. At Balbriggan, a village in the county of Kildare, we have lately sent a young man to be initiated into the Lancastrian plan. He returned after a stay of two weeks, and is now superintending a daily school of 70 children. It is to be enlarged to 100 of each sex in separate apartments with suitable monitors, &c. fully organized on the Lancastrian plan. The catholic priest of the parish patronises the plan, and leaves the management to the committee, who are of his church. The children pay: masters and shopkeepers 6d. per week, trading tradesmen 4d. and day-labourers 2d. This payment is likely to defray nearly all the expenses of the school, which have been previously fitted by subscription. We have in this instance a practical proof that much good may be effected by judicious exertion with little expense. The plan of receiving payment may probably stimulate the parents to cause the children to give re-

gular attendance, for sometimes what is procured without cost is not sufficiently valued.

ANTRIM INFIRMARY.

During the year from February 1810 to February 1811, the number of patients at the county of Antrim infirmary, in Lisburn, has been

Interns (of whom 15 now remain)...	74
Externs.....	823
For medical advice.....	226

BLEACHER'S PETITION.

In a former number, we gave the resolutions of a number of proprietors of bleachgreens, who assembled at Belfast. We now insert a copy of the petition with the signatures annexed, and of a circular letter sent by the committee to such members of parliament as they hoped to be able to influence to a support of the petition either from considerations of a local nature, or on the principle of public spirit. The readiness, with which the petition was signed, with very few exceptions, shows the prevalence of more humane and enlightened sentiments. It is pleasing to contrast the general concurrence evinced on the present occasion, with the prejudices of former times, and to hail the progress of a liberal and enlightened philanthropy.

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE AND HONORABLE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The petition of the proprietors of Bleach-greens in the north of Ireland.

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

That your petitioners' property is much exposed while lying out at bleach; and great depredations are annually committed on your petitioners.

That the laws which punish the offence with death, have been found ineffectual to restrain these depredations; for that owing to the lenity of prosecutors, the unwillingness of juries to convict, and the general leaning to the side of mercy, when the punishment is by the common opinion of mankind considered as disproportioned to the offence, very few convictions take place, and in consequence offenders mostly escape, and are encouraged in the commission of crimes, which are multiplied from the probability of escape being increased, and from the impunity which lax prosecutions afford.

That petitioners are strongly impressed with the sentiment that by certainty of punishment being substituted for severity of punishment, crimes would be diminished.

and your petitioners' property better
red: they therefore humbly pray, that
liament may in its wisdom alter the
ishment of death, in case of robbing
sch-greens, into transp[er]son for life,

or such a period of confinement in pen-
tentiary houses as to them may appear el-
gible; provided a system of confinement
in such houses should hereafter be adop-
ed by the legislature.

ert Jaffray Nicholson
n Brown
omas Loyd
gh Owens
tis Hemphill
l. Caldwell
l. Gregg
nith Smyth and Co.
st. Kyle
ah Bryan
iry Orr
n Ogilby
x. Alexander
and Michael Ross
n A. Smyth
n Stephenson
l. Hunter
es N. Richardson
ley Alexander
n Alexander
n Ross
ey, McClellan & Co.
es Alexander
x. Ogilby
ley Ogilby and Co.
l. Moody
l. P. Lind
st. McCrea
st. Conn
McCintock
n Stewart
uel Lyle
es Wilson
x. Boyle
frew Orr
es Barklie
s. Eyre Powell
a Forbes
s. Spear
uel Nelson
a Jackson, and Son
rnelius Duffy
an Orr
wd. Ryan
liam Helton
in R. Clarke
liam Clarke
an Bewley
u. Waldron
dan Fox
in Anderson

John Greer
Jackson, Eyre and Co.
Jonathan Hogg
Adam McBryde
Edward Shaw
Wm. Greer
Alex. Stewart
Jonathan Pike
Wm. Doyle
Samuel McDonnell
John Hunter, jun.
Robt. Atkinson
James Kidd, jun.
William Welton
Thomas Greer
Cos Waddell
James Ward
Pharis Martin
Samuel Kidd
John Holmes
John and Charles Hardy
Wm. Morgan
Pat. Robinson
Thos. Boardman
Pat. Ferguson
Andw. and Thos. Sloan
Alex. Clark, jun.
George Wilson
Archd. Barklie
Wm. Gibson
John and Wm. Miller
Wm. Gillilan
Jesse Millar
Sam. Cunningham
Robt. Adair Bell
Thos. Dickey
Adam Duffin
John Adam
Shaw and Fitzgerald
Alex. Brown
Bernie and Cunningham
James and Hugh Dickey
Hugh Swan
James Steen
Henry Adair
James Beck
John Wilson
John Knox
Francis Bennett and son
Joseph Cunningham
Hugh and John Jackson

John Hancock
John McCance
Wm. Stevenson
Joseph Stevenson
John S. Ferguson
Samuel Smith
Alex. Stewart
Wm. Thompson
John Sinchire
Robert Neilson
Robert A. Johnston
Robert Williamson
Henry Bell
Alex. Williamson
James B. Ferguson
Edward Curteis
John C. Hill
Wm. Coulson
Jacob Hancock
John M. Stouppé
Wm. Archer
John Richardson
Joseph Richardson
John Younghusband
Gilbert McIlveen
David Birnie
Samuel H. Bart
John Bell
Robert Grogan
Wm. Ewing
William Pike
George Ledlie
Andw. Newtson
Wm. Ramsay
James M. Christie
John Wynner
Edw. C. Chibbort
Thos. Stott
George Greer
Robt. Girvin
James Christy
Wm. Dawson
Robert Newsom
Geo. Darley
Joseph Law
James Foot
Wm. Hayes, jun.
Geo. Crawford
Walter Crawford
James Uppichard
John Hanna

those marked (*) are calico printers in the vicinity of Dublin. The insertion of names manifests how generally the petition has been signed.

The following Circular Letter has been forwarded to many Members of Parliament.

"The committee to whom the care of forwarding the petition was intrusted, beg leave to present a copy of the resolutions and petition to *****", and to beg the favour of his support to the petition, and to the bill which may be brought into parliament in consequence of the prayer of the petition. They have great satisfaction in stating, that the petition has been generally signed by the proprietors of bleach-greens and calico print-yards, and they hope that so full a concurrence of those, whose interests are so immediately concerned, will have great weight in inducing the legislature to comply with their request for the mitigation of punishment, a measure they conceive equally demanded on the principles of humanity, and by a sound policy as best calculated to protect property, and diminish the number of crimes."

The list of signatures would have been longer if there had been time to offer the petition to all, but time pressed and prevented a full application.

It may not perhaps be known to many of our readers, that the law which made the robbing of bleach-greens, a capital felony, and enacted the punishment of death is not of a very old date. It is contained in the 3d George III. chap. 34, being the first great linen act, which with the concurrence of the linen-draper of Belfast and Lisburn, was carried through parliament in 1763, by the old Earl of Hillsborough, afterwards created Marquis of Downshire. The 77th section takes away the benefit of clergy "from any felon convicted according to the due course of law, and statutes of this kingdom, of stealing linen, hempen, or cotton yarn or linen or hempen cloth, or cloth made of linen and cotton yarn, or any materials or utensils used in bleaching the same above the value of five shillings from any bleach-yard, buck-house or work-house thereunto belonging; whether the fact be committed by day or by night."

In the petition for the repeal of this law, there is a favourable concurrence and co-operation by the persons interested, which cannot readily be procured in other cases, for in this instance the parties interested have a better opportunity of acting in concert, than in many other cases, where those concerned are more dispersed, and have little opportunity of expressing a

united judgment. But in this case the almost unanimous voice of those who are exclusively interested, is in favour of a more lenient mode of punishment: a circumstance, which it is hoped the legislature will not overlook. Sir Samuel Romilly demonstrates by his conduct that he is hearty in the cause; such conduct will insure to him, the best rewards, the approbation of his own mind, and entitle him to the veneration and respect of the enlightened among his fellow-citizens in the present times, as well as hand down his name to posterity as the friend to man, when the party feuds of the day shall be forgotten, or remembered with disgust. By his judicious exertions in the cause of humanity, he is laying the foundations of a well-earned and lasting fame, as an enlightened statesman and able senator.

It is pleasing to perceive the progress of a humane principle on the subject of capital punishments. At a meeting of the master calico printers in the vicinity of London, resolutions and a petition to Parliament, praying for a change of punishment for robbing print-yards, similar to those from this country, were agreed to with only one dissentient voice. The petition, it is expected, will be presented this week, as also the one from Ireland, which was transmitted to Sir Samuel Romilly last week.

On a copy of the calico printers' resolutions and petition being presented to Sir Samuel Romilly, he returned the following appropriate answer, characteristic of his benevolence and sound judgment.

Lincoln's Inn, Feb. 13, 1811.

SIR,—I have received your letter, inclosing the resolutions come to at a meeting of the master calico printers in the vicinity of London, held on the 9th of the present month; and I shall have very great satisfaction in presenting their petition to the house of Commons, and in promoting the object of it, to the utmost of my abilities. The Irish petition has not yet been transmitted to me, but I am in daily expectation of receiving it, and I am very desirous of presenting it early. The thanks which the meeting has done me the honour to give me, have afforded me very great satisfaction, for though I cannot pretend to any greater merit than that of merely doing my duty, by endeavouring to avail myself of such means as I possess of being

useful to mankind, yet I am not indifferent or insensible to the approbation or applause of those who take a lively interest in the well-being of their fellow creatures.

I am, &c.

SAMUEL ROMILLY.

Thomas Foster, *esq.* *Bramley Hall,*
near Bow, Middlesex.

BELFAST ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION.

To make our readers more fully acquainted with the present state of the Academical Institution in this town, we give the following interesting papers on that subject. Sensible of the importance of education to all ranks; and ardently desirous that effectual measures might be taken to promote its benefits, we call the attention of our readers to the important subject, and wish most hearty good will to the proposed Institution, we venture to express our wish, that in no part of the buildings or management, substantial use may be sacrificed to show; or that to gain patronage or additional aids, the important interests of an independent institution may not be bartered at the shrine of power.

THE VISITORS, having summoned a general meeting of the Proprietors of the ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION, to take into their consideration a question which appears to them of vital importance to the success, and even the existence of their attempt to improve the state of Education in this part of the Kingdom, think it necessary to lay before them the following documents, in order that they may have the necessary information for coming to a decision.

The management of the affairs of the Institution had been vested in the Board of Managers, by a general meeting of Proprietors, held on the 4th of February, 1808, with instructions to proceed according to the recommendation of the Committee, with whom the plan was first digested and acted upon, by increasing the subscriptions, and making the necessary preparations for opening Schools and delivering courses of Lectures. For some time it was doubtful whether the latter of these objects could be best effected by making a commencement in temporary buildings, or postponing it until suitable buildings should be erected. The latter of these was preferred by the concurrent decisions of several general meetings, and nothing now remained but to carry the wishes of the proprietors into effect, by increasing the subscriptions, and making

the necessary arrangements for building. The total of the subscriptions at this time amounted to upwards of £15,000, and it appeared from the instructions given to the Architects chosen to draw a plan for the buildings, that £10,000 was to be laid out in their erection, leaving a remainder of £5000 for all the other purposes of the Institution. In this arrangement the Board of Visitors acquiesced for some time under the idea that the Managers, seeing how inadequate such a portion of the funds would be to create, what must be called the soul of a literary institution, (the endowment of Professors and Teachers, the purchase and formation of a Botanical Garden, the furnishing of a Library, and the providing apparatus for the several professors) would see the necessity of exerting themselves in increasing the funds. At length, however, fearing, from the inactivity of the Managers, that these observations had escaped their notice, they thought it necessary on the 5th of September, 1808, to send them the following message...

"It is proposed to the Board of Managers, that for getting in the instalments already due, and collecting additional subscriptions, a Committee be appointed at every weekly meeting of the Managers, consisting of two persons who shall be required to use their endeavours for this purpose during the interval, and report at the next weekly board. To obviate any objections that may be urged against them...the Collectors, in performing this duty, they shall be furnished with a short and perspicuous statement of the Institution, its funds, the views entertained respecting it, and the sum necessary to give it full effect; suppose £10,000 for buildings, and £20,000 for professorships, &c. and candidly informing individuals that without their co-operation, this great national undertaking must even now fall, or degenerate into a common school, and become a reproach to the country."

An answer was sent, intimating, that such a committee as had been recommended was appointed; "but that the Managers thought it imprudent to press the collection of new subscriptions through the country, until some progress has been made in the buildings; that this was delayed for want of a plan, but that every exertion in their power was made to forward it."

On perceiving from this answer that no means were to be adopted to increase the fund necessary for establishing the Institution, while the greater part of that already in hands, was still intended to be appropriated to the buildings, seeing also that some part of the small portion not appropriated to the buildings (amounting to nearly £1000) had been expended in inclosing the ground, they thought it necessary again to remind the Managers of the impolicy of dissipating the funds in buildings, and of depending on future contingencies for procuring the means of its becoming effectual, and therefore on the 13th of October, 1808, they sent them the following message....

"The Board of Visitors having devoted great attention to discover the best means of rescuing the Institution from any unfavourable conclusions which the public may be inclined to draw from its present state of inactivity, as the result of their inquiries, earnestly represent to the Managers the necessity of appropriating a certain sum to be applied solely to the Literary department. They are of opinion that £10,000 should be set apart for this purpose, as being the smallest sum which can enable it to answer the ends for which it was formed. If the Managers acquiesce in this measure, the Visitors will then endeavour to arrange a plan which may be acted upon at the beginning of the ensuing winter at farthest, and which may by that time have sufficient publicity to enable our countrymen to avail themselves of its advantages.

"Should the Managers agree to the specific disposition of the sum now mentioned, which can be considered adequate only to the commencement of our design, they will perceive the urgency of recurring to such measures as marked the early days of the Institution, in order to provide a sum sufficient not only to complete the body, or mere external part, but also progressively to increase its usefulness, by extending the plan and facilitating the acquirement of a literary education."

The only notice taken of this message by the Managers, was the following Resolution on their books, of the 3d of November, 1808....

"Resolved, That the Managers are of opinion, that the appropriation of any part of the funds for any of the purposes mentioned in the communication of the

Visitors, of the 13th inst. is at present premature."

On the 8th of November, the Visitors sent the following message to the Managers....

"The Visitors having seen on the Managers book, what they suppose was intended as an answer to their late message, cannot avoid expressing their disappointment on seeing so brief and unsatisfactory a reply made to their note. The Managers must be sensible, that in acting as they have done, the Visitors have exercised a right vested in them by the fundamental laws of the Institution, which declare that they shall have authority to inspect at all times every department of the Institution.

Desirous, therefore, that the measure recommended by them in their last notice, should originate with the Board of Managers, rather than with the general Court of Proprietors, to which, in case of any avowed difference of opinion, it must ultimately be referred, and whose sentiments they are sensible, are perfectly conformable to their own, the Visitors trust that the Managers will reconsider the subject, and either unite with them in putting the measure into effect, or else explain in detail the arguments which may have had such influence on their determination."

To this message the following answer was given on the 11th of November....

"The Managers of the Academical Institution acknowledge, in the fullest extent, the authority of the Visitors to inspect at all times every department of the Institution, and will be much gratified by the sentiments of the Visitors on any point connected with the great object in view. At the same time, they feel it to be their bounden duty to exercise their own judgment on every department of the Institution, and also on every communication with which they may be favoured by the Visitors. The appropriation of the sum of £10,000 to the purposes mentioned in the communication of the Visitors, or of any specific sum for those purposes, the Managers deem premature. The amount of the funds of the Institution are not yet ascertained; neither the sum necessary for the buildings. Besides, the Prospectus directs, that should circumstances arise which may delay the founding the number of Lectureships at first intended, a fewer number are to be adopted, thereby pointing

out to the Managers, the necessity of attending to the funds of the Institution in fixing the number of Professors.

The Board of Visitors on receiving the above answer, came to the resolution "that in consequence of their ignorance of the amount of the fund to be set apart for the literary department, the Visitors cannot draw up any detailed plan of the course of studies to be adopted; and that they do not think it necessary to meet oftener than once a month, until they shall have been provided with the information necessary to regulate their proceedings on this subject."

In this state the affairs of the Institution remained till after the passing of the bye-laws, under the act of incorporation, by a general meeting held on the 6th of November, 1810. On the 29th of the same month, the Visitors thought it necessary to lay before the Managers a full and explicit statement of their opinion of the present state of the Institution, and of the steps which appeared to them necessary to be pursued, in order to attain the end desired by the Proprietors, who had entrusted them with the management and inspection of their affairs. To this end they sent them the following.....MESSAGE...

"On entering upon the exercise of our office, as Visitors, we mean to give you our sentiments on the present state of the Academical Institution; satisfied, that both boards are alike zealous to complete an undertaking so connected with the true interests of this town and country, and trusting that if we agree, our mutual object will be more speedily forwarded; and if we differ, no harm can result from this *private communication*.

"The questions which claim our attention at present, are, in what way is it best to expend the money we at present possess; and by what means are we to get more to spend?

"It is, perhaps, fortunate, in one respect, that you have not advanced further in the work, as you will not have been hurried into an expenditure upon the building, wholly incompatible with the real purposes of the Institution. It is certainly an object very desirable, but still we think an object of secondary importance, to have an edifice raised, both ornamental to the town, and convenient, in all respects, for the accommodation of masters and students; in all the departments of science, proposed by this board

to be taught in it. Such a building, no doubt, will be beneficial to the town, will form a fine termination to a street, and will probably raise the ground rents, and rents of houses in that quarter; but all this will, we think, depend upon a proviso, viz. of having a prospect of furnishing the house with masters whose abilities and reputation will attract a number of scholars. Now, men of such character, we insist upon it, can only be had, we may say purchased, in the literary market, by endowments suitable to a laborious, though dignified, and highly responsible station.

"The fees of students will, no doubt, in time, relieve you in part, from the appropriation of your funds to such salaries and endowments, as will, at first, be absolutely necessary to fill your lectureships, or even your elementary schools with proper instructors, and to tempt them from previous settlements, to take part in an undertaking, where, though the prospect may be flattering, the success is problematical. We think it, then, our duty to inform you, that if you suffer the whole, or nearly the whole of your present funds to be expended, or as we should rather say, dissipated in a pile of brick and mortar, however handsome, or even convenient for the purposes intended; in thus making rooms, without any effort to fill them either with masters or scholars, you will be somewhat in the same predicament of the architect, who built a high house, but forgot the place for the stairs. When Mr. Fox (then a young man) invited his friends to a new and elegant house of his in the country, and they were admiring the beauties of the prospect, all very beautiful, said Charles, but where is the prospect of paying the rent? And it might be said of such a naked building as may be raised with the whole of your present funds, that all was convenient and well-contrived; but where is the academy? only in the prospectus. Two or three men of eminent talent would contribute more to the success of your establishment, much more indeed, than were your whole plan of building with fine front and double squares, to rise from the ground, like an exhalation, without any expense whatever. What shabby rooms had the elder Monro, and Cullen, and Black to lecture in, but they were crowded rooms: these men made that university. The new college of E-

Edinburgh is left in an unfinished state, with many thousands mispent upon it, and it may be questioned whether were it completed, the number of students would be much encreased, though they might have superior accommodations. A Boerhaave and a Gaubius were sufficient to make a swamp in Holland the resort of students from all parts of the world. A Hucheson, a Reid, and a Smith rendered Glasgow as famous in another branch of literature. Such men are the only magnets that can draw scholars sufficient to make an academy; but to make such men, there must either be an adequate provision from the fees of students, which in the present case is out of the question; or, there must be an adequate portion of our funds allotted to the endowment and salaries of men fully qualified for their offices, until the time arrive, when a concourse of students may supply a portion of the annual income, and yield the best incitement to the industry of teachers.

"We, therefore, think it incumbent on the Managers, to get as soon as possible, an exact calculation, subscribed by a creditable and capable architect, of the expense necessary to complete the part of the building already undertaken. It has been said that this part alone will exhaust the whole of the money at present subscribed, and if this be the case, we think, that before the funds are so dissipated, you should enter into some resolution as a record on your books, and a pledge of your intention with regard to the salaries of teachers, and endowment of lectures.—Whether it be your intention, after beginning where other people end, by a wall* of inclosure, which however, serves no one purpose of inclosure, and after having finished two handsome dwelling houses, and several large rooms, whether it be your design to let them out for hire to any schoolmasters who may offer, or, whether now, that there is time for it, to pledge yourselves that a certain portion of whatever funds you have or may possess (say one half or one third) shall be faithfully applied to attract, and to secure proper teachers for the Institution. In doing so, you will, assuredly, show your own foresight, and justify the public expectation. The proprietors, at large, we are satisfied, rely on this being done, and until it be done, we think the

amount of the sums already subscribed, will not be paid up, in the present uncertainty with respect to the proper mode of expending it.

"Were a proper portion of your funds, from this day, to be dedicated, the interest thereon to accumulate, for the sole purpose of forming certain and secured salaries to teachers, you might then have a proper ground for publishing, at an early day, by advertisement in the public papers, or in any other manner, such a recompence for professional talent, as might induce competent men to disengage themselves from their present pursuits and attachments, and give them the necessary time for considering on the eligibility of a removal to a yet infant institution. It must be a considerable premium that will tempt to such a precarious undertaking, men of adequate and approved abilities; for of other applicants, you will, no doubt, have abundance. But we trust to your responsibility and to your conscience, that you never will make the Academic Institution worthless from the beginning, by an early admission of inefficient and inexperienced teachers. We take this opportunity of declaring, as bound by public duty, that as far as may depend upon our choice of masters, professors, or any other officers in the Academic Institution, we shall not suffer ourselves to be influenced by personal favour, affection, or partiality, but shall give our votes, sincerely and honestly, for those who we judge are best able to discharge their respective duties, and promote the general interests of the establishment; and in making this resolution, which we design to enter on our books, we earnestly recommend to the managers, an adoption of the same solemn engagement.

"We also think that no time should be lost in writing to those distinguished persons in the several departments of science, either in the different universities, or elsewhere, to point out and recommend from their knowledge such men as they might think properly qualified for our several literary stations. The most eminent men, are, usually, the most liberal; and far from being actuated by little jealousies, or any spirit of literary monopoly, would rejoice in the opportunity of scattering the seeds of science and learning as widely as possible. Letters thus addressed to men of distinguished literary reputation convey in themselves a compliment pleasing to them, and would

* The expense of building this wall was nearly £1000.

help to interest them in the fate and fortunes of an infant undertaking. Such men are Mr. Davy of the Royal Institution, Professor Dugald Stewart, Dr. Aikin of London, Richard Kirwan, General Vallancey, Dr. Millar, and we also think a correspondence should be entered into with the Cork Institution, endeavouring, on our parts, by candid and liberal statements to maintain the most friendly intercourse with that Institution, by whose greater experience and perhaps greater interest with men in office, we might receive pecuniary advantage as well as instruction. Be assured we stand in need of instruction and advice in many particulars.

"There is, we apprehend, much danger at present, of the Belfast Institution slipping out of the minds and memories of the public, and of its friends at a distance; and we think every practicable means ought to be taken by activity on our parts, to revive and give a fresh impulse to a zeal which was certainly once manifested pretty generally, for the formation of such a collegiate academy. To revive zeal is no very easy thing to accomplish. We think the presence of one able and experienced gentleman of literary reputation, to be for some time on the spot, might be productive of much advantage in giving advice, and particularly in communicating something of serious activity in the business, something like the activity that most of us exert for our own personal advantage. This we fear will seldom if ever be effected by stated meetings of boards, or committees of boards attended by a sort of honourable compulsion, when we have nothing better to employ ourselves about. As to the means of encreasing our funds, every endeavour should be made to call the attention of the public, and revive a zeal which has lately flagged partly from our own parcimony in some things, and procrastination in others.—We think that notwithstanding the high price of timber, had a building containing only the necessary lecture-rooms and school-rooms, been carried on with spirit and activity from the time you received your plan, the loss of perhaps a thousand or two would have been amply supplied by having carried the public zeal and encouragement along with you, which has been suspended with the delay of the work, and suspended animation is as hard to revive in the public as in the individual.

There is a short-sighted, purblind economy in these matters, which misses its aim, and operates as fatally as the most thoughtless prodigality.

"You ought, we think, to obtain a full knowledge of the amount, and disposition of the sum, we believe annually granted by parliament, for the purpose of national education in Ireland. Whether it be placed solely at the disposal of the Dublin Society, how much of it has been already given to certain local institutions, such as the Cork Institution, and whether you have any claim to a part of it in your present state, or only when you become an academy in action, and not merely "in prospectu." If the latter, it should be a new reason to quicken your progress to an active establishment. Application ought to be made to the proper officers of the Dublin Society for the purpose of obtaining full knowledge on this subject.

"It would also be expedient to gain the friendship and patronage of some members of parliament of influence, and the speediest and most effectual measures ought to be taken to pre-occupy the minds of such men with impressions favourable to the Belfast Academical Institution.

"We have thus performed our duty in suggesting what we thought most advantageous to the Academical Institution, and you will perform your duty by taking these suggestions into your consideration."

29th November, 1810.

The result of this communication appeared in the following resolutions of the Board of Managers...

"That when the Superintendent shall have entered on his office, he shall be directed to make out an estimate of the expense of the intended work, to enable us to judge what sum may with propriety be expended on the buildings.

"That the Visitors be requested to correspond with such gentlemen of literary abilities as they judge proper, in order to obtain their advice and assistance, and that they would point out the probable expense attending the filling up the several Professorships.

"That a petition to the Imperial Parliament be prepared, praying pecuniary aid to the Institution.

"That on the first meeting in March a motion will be brought forward, that not more than two-thirds of the funds be appropriated to the buildings.

"That the Visitors be requested to write to the Secretary of the Dublin Society, to obtain information of the money granted to them for the purposes of education."

In compliance with the Managers' wish, the following message was immediately sent to them by the Visitors, December 18th.

"The Visitors adhering to the principles laid down in their last message, as to the mode of expending the funds, beg leave to recall the Managers' attention to that part of it, in which they require that a certain part of the funds be unalienably set apart for the support of Professors, and they hope that the Managers will be convinced of the necessity of appropriating at least one half of them to that purpose, when they take into consideration the following estimate of the expences attending each Professorship.

"It is the opinion of this Board that an annual salary of £100, and a free house of the value of £50 per ann. will be necessary to induce a man of abilities to settle here as a Professor, and this is to be considered as exclusive of the apparatus and other expences necessary to enable the professor to deliver a course of lectures."

"It is also the opinion of this Board, that the appointment of the following Professorships is indispensibly necessary to lead to the establishment of a literary institution, in which the education of youth can be completed.

1. Natural Philosophy.
2. Mathematics.
3. Logic, Metaphysics and Belles Lettres.
4. Moral Philosophy.

To obviate the objection which may occur to the Managers, that the appropriation of one half of the funds will so far lessen the portion necessary for carrying on the buildings as to prevent their being erected; it is suggested that the part of the building now to be raised, may be confined to the centre part of the range in Mr. Seane's plan, already adopted, viz. the part contained between the two small arches or gateways, which will contain sufficient accommodation for the departments of literature now recommended, and that the professors and masters may be accommodated with temporary residences, until our funds admit of dwelling-houses to be erected, conformably to the original plan.

* This is to be considered as independent of the fees of Students.

No notice having been taken of this message, the Visitors thought it necessary to repeat their message, in hopes of ascertaining the reason why the Managers treated this important question with so much apparent indifference. On the 20th of December they sent the following message....

"The Visitors feel extremely disappointed at the apparent neglect with which their two last messages have been received by the Managers, as they find, on referring to the minutes of the last Board of Managers, that no part of them of immediate importance, except one, has been noticed, viz. the appropriation of some portion of the funds to the literary departments of the Institution, and that this has been deferred without any apparent cause to a distant day, while in the interim such expences may be incurred, as to render the portion of the funds then to be appropriated so small, as to be totally inadequate to accomplish any extensive literary object. They therefore beg leave to inform the Managers, that unless they come immediately to a full and decisive resolution on this point, which is of primary importance, the Visitors will feel it their duty to lay the question before the Proprietors, and to leave the decision to their final tribunal.

"They also beg leave to inform the Managers, that they have endeavoured to investigate, as far as their means would permit, the channels by which money may be derived from the Dublin Society, and will continue so to do; but that it is impossible to proceed upon that resolution of the Managers, which directs the Visitors to write to men of literary abilities, in order to obtain their advice and assistance, until they are acquainted with the portion of the funds to be appropriated to the literary departments.

The only notice taken of this message, was the following resolution, entered into the Managers' book, Jan. 1, 1811:—

Resolved, "That the Managers cannot give a decisive answer to this message, until they have received an estimate of the buildings."

Having waited ineffectually for this estimate, till the 17th of January, the Visitors came to the resolution of calling a general meeting of the Proprietors, on the 7th of February, 1811, and sent a notice of their intention to the Managers, conformably to the bye-laws. On receiving it, the Managers, for the first time, requested a

conference on the subject, with the board of Visitors; and a deputation of two members of that board in consequence attended the Managers' meeting, Jan. 29th, and laid before them the following resolution of that board...

"That it is the decided and unanimous opinion of the board of Visitors, that a specific part of the funds now in existence, and of whatever funds may hereafter accrue to the Institution, be unalienably set apart for the support of the literary departments."

In consequence of this, the Managers came to the following resolution...

"That on the next day of meeting, a motion shall be made, that not more than two-thirds of the funds be appropriated to the buildings."

On the next meeting, February the 5th, previous to the discussion of the above question, an estimate of the buildings was laid before the meeting, which stated that the expense of erecting the part of the buildings of which the foundations are now laid, would amount to £11602; and that the part of this range which was pointed out by the Visitors, in their message of the 13th December, would cost £3387—in both cases independent of locks, grates and chimneys.

At this meeting, the motion just mentioned was negatived; and the following message transmitted to the Visitors...

"The Managers inform the board of Visitors, that they have negatived the above-mentioned resolution, in consequence of having received estimates by which they find, that the expense of erecting the centre building only, will exceed the sum proposed to be set apart for the buildings."

In the mean time the Visitors perceiving that the discussion of this question was protracted from day to day, without any hopes of its being decided in the manner which they deem necessary for the welfare, and even the existence of the Institution, gave the Managers notice of their final resolution in the following message...

"The board of Visitors still adhere to the resolution stated to the Managers by their deputation, not only for the reasons declared in the several messages transmitted by them to that board, but because they think that the appropriation of a large portion of the funds for any specific purpose should be decided by the proprietors at large, and therefore persevere in their resolution of taking their opinion on the subject, trusting

that the Managers concur with them in leaving to that body, the decision of a question so important. In consequence, however, of the delay occasioned by the late conference with the managers they have resolved to postpone the proposed general meeting, till Thursday the 21st of February. In the mean time the Visitors protest against any proceedings of the board of Managers which may tend to dissipate any part of the funds until this question shall have been decided by the general meeting of the proprietors."

Such is the state of the question now before the proprietors. It remains with them to decide what portion of the funds is to be applied to the buildings, and what to be set apart for the endowment of professorships, and for defraying the other expenses attending the several courses of lectures proposed to be commenced, or of such of them as may be thought advisable. If their decision coincides with the opinion of the Visitors, there is every reason to hope that some branches of literature will be commenced as soon as suitable buildings are prepared for them; and these buildings need by no means be expensive; if, however, they differ, and think that the whole of the funds now in existence should be spent in building, another question still remains to be agitated; how to raise a fund for the payment of those departments of literature, without which, whatever buildings they erect, will be a cause of disgrace to those concerned in it, and of contempt to every one who hears the Institution named.

At a general meeting of the proprietors of the Academical Institution, held in the Exchange Rooms, pursuant to public notice, on Thursday the 21st inst.—Edward May, esq. Vice-President in the chair:

It was resolved, that a specific portion of the funds now in existence, and such as shall hereafter accrue to the Institution, shall be unalienably set apart to the payment of Professors and Teachers.

That one-fourth of the money now in the bank shall be appropriated to the payment of Professors and teachers and other literary and scientific purposes.

Mr. May having left the chair, and Mr. John Gregg having been called to it, it was unanimously resolved that the thanks of this meeting be given to Edward May, esq. for his very proper conduct in the chair.

EDWARD MAY, Vice-President.
JOS. STEVENSON, Secretary.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for defraying the expenses incurred by Mr. Finnerty, in the late prosecution instituted against him in the court of King's-Bench, for a libel, received by Robert Tennent, Belfast, John Hancock, Lisburn, and James Nicholson, Newry.

	£.	s.	d.
John Hancock.....	5	-	-
Robert Tennent.....	5	-	-
W. D.....	5	-	-
William John Hancock.....	1	-	-
A female friend to Irish Patriots.....	1	2	9

AGRICULTURAL REPORT

From January 20, till February 20.

No favourable change has taken place in the state of the weather since last report. Much snow and rain have fallen, and the ground is so drenched with wet, that little or no work can be done in the fields, except on light sandy soils, so that the farmer has once more the unpleasant prospect of having to struggle with a late seed time, besides the disadvantages always resulting from a wet cold winter, which renders the land more unfit for yielding good crops, than if the season had been dry and frosty.

Those who occupy large tracts of ground, and have much tillage to perform, will be under the necessity of setting about it before the soil is in a proper state for ploughing; it may be well if they avoid hinting the furrows until the weather becomes dry, or near the time of sowing, because if heavy rains fall before it is sown, a great deal of the fine mould raised by the plough will be washed away, and either fill up the furrows at the bottom of the fields, or be carried into the ditches, whilst the unhinted furrows being solid, resist the current of the water, and will sooner dry and break up finer at the sowing season.

It is a fact well established by the experience of every intelligent farmer, that much wet is extremely injurious to land occupied in tillage, and in this humid climate, where the crops are oftener hurt by wet than dry seasons, it is particularly necessary that the farmer should attend to the laying up his land in such a manner as would most effectually carry off all superfluous moisture, during the rainy seasons, and to avoid as much as possible letting his cattle range through his fields during the winter, because their feet at that time injures the land exceedingly, by trampling it into holes, in which the water lodges, sours the soil, and unfits it for producing a crop.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

The linen market in Dublin has not been good, although it turned out better than had been expected. A large quantity of goods were sold, but at reduced prices. There was no demand from the United States of North America, owing to our unsettled political relations with that country. Not a buyer attended from London, and very few from Scotland. Some goods were bought for Manchester, and to supply the north of England, and some have been made up for Spain. If the ports of America were open, we might expect a demand for fine linens from that quarter; but owing to the high prices of coarse linens with us, and the increase of American manufactures, but few of the lower descriptions are required in that country to be imported, except those they receive from Germany and Russia, and which are preferred to ours.

It is hoped that flaxseed will be on reasonable terms, and in sufficient abundance this season. Much remained from last year, and arrivals are daily taking place from America. Little importation from Riga, and other ports in the Baltic can be expected.

A letter from Liverpool gives the following dull account of trade in that great commercial mart. The many failures there, and at Manchester, have spread a general gloom, and show the depressed state of our commercial interests, the errors of over-driven speculation, and the insecurity of our paper fabric, while all these evils are increased by an exclusion from the continent.

"During the last fortnight, the demand for British Plantation Sugars, has been very dull, and the prices have declined, in the course of that period, about 2 a 3 per cwt.

This reverse is, in some measure, owing to the unhappy character of the times, which has rendered it necessary for the Importers to require immediate payment, instead of granting the usual terms of credit. The stock, in this market, is now moderate, and as no arrivals of consequence will soon take place, the prospect is considered to be more favourable, but much will depend on the course which may be adopted, with regard to the distilleries. A few trifling sales of foreign sugars have been made to speculators, at very low prices, but, while there is so little prospect of an export opening, it cannot be expected that any thing of moment will be done. Should a change, however, take place in the commercial policy of the belligerents, tending to facilitate our intercourse with the continent of Europe, we might calculate upon a revival in the export demand, and a consequent improvement in the prices, particularly as our stock is now estimated, at 1000 tons less than it was at the commencement of the last year.—Notwithstanding the extremely low prices at which coffee can now be purchased, the home consumption has not, apparently, become more extensive, and the export demand continues as limited as it has been at any former period.—The demand, for the low qualities of rum, is very limited, but Jamaica, of good flavour and strength, goes off pretty regularly.—Of Pimento it is scarcely possible to effect a sale upon almost any terms.—For Cocoa there is no enquiry.—Ginger remains stationary.

“ Scarcely, at any former period, have we witnessed a greater and more uniform depression than has prevailed in our Cotton-market, for several weeks past. The demand has continued unusually limited, and being quite inadequate to the quantity offered for sale, several parcels have been forced off at reduced prices. In the manufacturing towns, trade is, at present, upon the decline, and the state of affairs here, we are sorry to say, is such, that we know not when to look for the restoration of commercial confidence. Ashes of good quality, have not, of late, experienced much alteration, and the demand, though not extensive, is, upon the whole, tolerably regular.

“ Several cargoes of timber have lately arrived, very little of which can be sold, as the dealers, from the limited nature of the country demand, have no encouragement to become purchasers. One cargo of New England Pine has been sold at 2s. 10d. and some of the importers, for prompt payment, would be induced to accept of 2s. 9d. per foot.—Fine Quercitron Bark continues scarce, and may be quoted from 45s. a 50s. per cwt.

“ The comparatively low prices to which Barilla has fallen, has not yet afforded any inducement to purchasers, and the demand continues as limited as it has been for some time past.—Our state of credit is increasingly low, and no one knows when he is safe. Our distresses are most serious here and in London.”

Such is the state of trade in England. The mighty overgrown Leviathan is wounded. In Ireland, things are not better. The revenue in Belfast, as well as in other places, is said latterly to have considerably decreased.

Exchange has remained, through this month, without much variation, at 9 per cent. Discount on bank notes has risen to 3 per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From the 20th of January to the 20th of February.

Hail Frost! that in the northern storm,
Or lov'st to shield thy giant form,
Or 'neath the starry arch serene,
Hang'st in the atmosphere unseen;
Or in thy crystal chariot driven,
Sparkling in the moon beams pale,
Ridest on the cloud-pav'd way of Heaven,
And round thee shower's the polish'd hail;
And on the green-revolving world below,
Bids't the dark vapors fall in flakes of lucid snow.

GILLESPIE.

There are so many mysterious effects connected with the act of freezing, that no theory accounts in a satisfactory manner for many of the phenomena which appear; and its effects on animal and vegetable substances are not always reducible to the same

principles of action: cover a plant above, as is the practice of gardeners when their wall-trees are in flower, and it escapes uninjured, when others, with which this precaution is not taken, are killed. We may often observe during intense cold, that when clouds intervene between the earth and the superior part of the atmosphere, the freezing ceases, and the thermometer begins to ascend as soon as the stars are hid from our view; and from some experiments, I have reason to believe that this effect is not produced by any diminution of electrical matter: knowing this salutary effect of covering, I have often protected several very tender plants, and preserved them uninjured from intense frost. By this means the dark-eyed Cistus (*Cistus Formosus*) and Sage-leaved Cistus (*Cistus Salvifolius*) have been preserved from the severe cold of the 29th, 29th, and 30th of January. The Japanese Rose, (*Camellia Japonica*) Wing-podded Sophora (*Sophora Tetraptera*) Small-leaved Sophora, (*Sophora Microphylla*) trained against a wall; the Blush Chinese Rose (*Rosa Semperflorens*) and Green Tea (*Thea Viridis*) in the open ground have survived without injury.

It may, however, be observed, that plants in general have suffered much less by the late severe weather, than they do with far less severe cold, when it comes in the month of November, when their wood is not so well hardened, and a greater quantity of sap is in the branches.

Jan. 22...Some flowers blown of common Primrose and Crimson Variety (*Primula Vulgaris*)—Redbreast, Wood-lark and common Wren, singing.

25...Common Thrush (*Turdus Musicus*) began to sing.

28—Saw one of the Black-billed Awk (*Alca Pica*) shot in Belfast Lough.

Feb. 6...The Hedge Sparrow (*Motacilla modularis*) singing.

10 The Chaffinch (*Fringilla Cælebs*) singing—Snow-drops (*Galanthus nivalis*) not yet in full blow.

11...Common Lark (*Alauda arvensis*) singing.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From the 20th January to the 20th February.

Since the 25th of December, 1796, when the Thermometer was at $15\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, at $8\frac{1}{2}$ A. M. we have had no cold approaching that of the 30th of January. In 1796, accounts from London mentioned the thermometer having been five degrees below 0.

January 21, 23, Fine days.

24, Fine day with frost.

25, Dark dry day.

26, Dark day with some small rain.

27, Snow showers with frost.

28, Frosty, fine bright day.

29, 31, Very cold days, with snow falling. Such was the fall of snow on the night of the 30th, and day of the 31st, accompanied with a great storm, that few people ever remember the like; the roads were rendered impassable, and many vessels wrecked.

February 1, Very stormy night, thawing during the day; freezing again at night.

2, Thawing during the day, rain towards night.

3, 8, Thawing, with rain and showers.

9, Fine dry day.

10, Very wet morning.

11, 13, Showery.

14, Frosty fine day.

15, Frosty morning, wet afternoon.

16, Gentle snow showers, afterwards rain.

17, Heavy fall of snow in the morning, afterwards rain at night.

18, Showery.

19, 20, Showery, heavy rain.

The range of the thermometer during this period has been greater than is often observed in the same time. On the 28th, at 8, A.M.,...18 at 9, P.M. 17°...on the 29th, at 8, A.M. 19°...at 9, 19°...at 12, 24°...at 9, P.M. 19°...on the 30th, at 8, A.M. 15°...at 9½ 22°...at 11 38°...at 10, P.M. 32°. On February 6, at 9 A.M. 45°...on the 8th, at 9, A.M. 46.

Range of the Barometer has also, at particular times, been considerable; on the 24th of January it was as high as 30.5; and on the 1st of Feb. it was as low as 28.4.

The winds have been extremely variable, and often blown with unusual violence; it is somewhat remarkable, that however calm it was during the day, it regularly began to blow at night.

The wind was observed S.W. 13...N.W. 5...W. 1...S.E. 6...S. 1...N.E. 5...and North 1 time.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

1st SATELLITE.					2d SATELLITE.					3d SATELLITE.									
<i>Emersions.</i>																			
DAYS.	H.	M.	S.		DAYS.	H.	M.	S.		DAYS.	H.	M.	S.		DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	
1	17	6	53		4	1	44	13	Im.	7	5	41	17	Im.					
3	11	35	54		4	4	14	0	E.	7	8	0	52	E.					
5	6	4	49		7	15	7	12	Im.	14	9	42	15	Im.					
7	0	33	50		7	17	32	8	E.	14	12	2	44	E.					
8	19	2	45		11	4	25	7	Im.	21	13	43	7	Im.	* 1st Sat. continued.				
10	13	31	45		11	6	50	13	E.	21	16	4	22	E.	24	17	23	23	
12	8	0	39		14	17	43	2	Im.	28	17	43	51	Im.	26	11	52	15	
14	2	20	39		14	20	8	16	E.	28	20	6	17	E.	28	6	21	17	
15	20	53	36		<i>Emersions</i>										30	0	50	8	
17	15	27	35		18	9	26	16							31	19	19	8	
19	9	56	28		21	22	44	18											
21	4	25	30		25	12	22	13											
22	22	54	22		29	1	0	10											

Look to the right hand*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Some time ago a letter was sent to us said to be found among the papers of a physician deceased, containing an attack on the character of a person in this town. Whether the reflections are ill or well founded, we will not suffer our pages to be the vehicle of abuse on individuals, or permit them to be defiled by the malignant passions of those, who may seek thus to vent their ill will. Of public measures, and public men, we will speak freely, but we will not aid the attack on private characters, or suffer the satirist under our shelter, to fire on his victims at random; sometimes indeed it may happen against the guilty, but frequently against the innocent. Our correspondent is mistaken, if he suppose that the permitting such a practice, would aid the liberty of the press. Dr. Franklin in his humorous account of the highest court of judicature in Pennsylvania, the court of the press, has well portrayed the dangers arising from the licentiousness of the press, attacking the characters of private persons. We refer our correspondent to it, particularly to the 2nd and 3d articles.

A continuation of the Rambler, by S. S. has been received.

ERRATA.

- Page 84—1st col.—21 line, for *meat* read *meal*.
- 82—1st col.—27 line, for *manufactoryes* read *manufactures*.
- 20—1st col.—4 line, for *walked* read *washed*.
- 45—1st col.—14 line, for *weaknes* read *weakness*.
- 49—28 line, for *express* read *espouse*.
- 82—2d col.—10 line, from bottom, for *vi.vus* read *vices*.
- 52—2d col.—1 line, instead of *Pelian* read *Italian*.

THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

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[Vol. 6.]

COMMUNICATIONS ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE STUDY OF GRAMMAR.

THE study of grammar, formerly thought of so much importance, as the foundation stone of the noble art of oratory, seems of late to have fallen into some disrepute. We daily hear it pronounced, in the most grave and imposing manner, that our attention ought to be given not to words, but to things. It is said, that the study of grammar is only the study of words; that none but pedants would pay a minute attention to it; that a blockhead can never be assisted by it, and a man of abilities does not need its assistance, in the acquisition of knowledge, or the communication of it to others.

Those who object against this science, that it is merely employed upon words, are far from bringing forward so heavy a charge as they imagine: for it would be strange to assert that words are unworthy of attention. Words stand for ideas; and those who are unacquainted with the exact import of the words they employ, and the proper manner of arranging them in a sentence, will be far from thinking clearly, or expressing themselves elegantly. They will, in a peculiar manner, be liable to mistake the meaning of others, and imperfectly to communicate their own. If their minds be in any degree fertile, they will be overburdened by the weight of their own ideas. If they be ardent lovers of truth, they will find

themselves fettered in their attempts to arrive at it; and should they happily possess themselves of some small portion of it, these they will be unable to impart to another.

An architect might, with as much propriety, despise the elements of geometry, as a writer, or even a reader, those of grammar.

The calumniators of this science seem to consider its utmost effort to be the right placing of some insignificant particle, or the proper formation of a verb or pronoun; but they ought to be told, that "if they penetrate into the innermost parts of this temple of science, they will there discover such refinement and subtilty of matter, as are not only proper to sharpen the understandings of young persons, but sufficient to give exercise for the most profound knowledge and erudition."

It is only by the grossest misapplication of language, that the epithet of pedantry can be attached to the study of what forms one of the noblest characteristics of our nature. The man who is imperfectly acquainted with his native tongue, is the most likely to be a pedant, for he must be the *slave* of language. But he who is *master* of it, will be able to use it as he pleases; he can mould it at his will, and give it whatever form and expression may best suit his purpose.

The science of grammar cannot indeed give sense to the blockhead, any more than the art of dancing can teach the lame to walk; but the

most moderate abilities may be much assisted by it; and the most stupendous powers or intellect can never produce their full effect, if it be neglected. Grammar is in fact a material part of the sciences of logic and rhetoric; and he who is ignorant of it must necessarily think incoherently, and speak and write incorrectly.

The study of language may be thought dry and uninviting; but unless it could be shewn that we speak by instinct, and not by the efforts of reason, it must be clear, that the best manner of speaking and writing will never be acquired without a considerable portion of labour. Those authors who have been most admired for the beauty of their writings, were men who considered words and sentences, as deserving of the most unintermitted attention. Valuable as was their matter, they had not the foolish vanity of supposing that it needed not the advantage of the most elegant language their art could bestow on it. Whatever there is in their manner that is admirable; their strength of expression; their exquisite polish of style; their happy choice, and beautiful arrangement of words and phrases; and above all, their inimitable ease, and charming flow of language, can only be the result of close and long-continued labour. Those divine poems, and those strains of more than mortal eloquence, which seem to burst, as if by inspiration, from the overflowing soul, have all been elaborated with the utmost care and attention. Horace, Virgil, Addison, and many other fine writers, were never satisfied with what they had written, and death alone could stop them from making daily alterations, not so much in the sense, as in the construction, of what had already astonished the world by its beauty.

Perhaps an apology is due for

employing so much time on this subject; as it must be confessed, that the ignorant and prejudiced are most in the habit of despising, or affecting to despise this science. To those who are capable of forming a right judgment on the subject, it must be obvious, that the study of grammar is of great importance; that an author can never dispense with it; and that he who shows by the carelessness and incorrectness of his style, that he considers it beneath him, must have great reliance on the value of his matter, if he expects attention to what he delivers.

E. C.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine:

STR,

HAVING observed in your number for January, certain observations on the principles of the Presbyterian church, and on the supposed inconsistency of Presbyterian ministers, accepting of the late augmentation of *Regium Donum*; I feel it necessary, as a friend to the Presbyterian interest, to trouble you with a letter on that subject. A respectable body has been attacked; it is but just to hear what may be said in its defence, and if it shall appear, that it has been foully calumniated, I know what it becomes the friends of virtue to think of those writers, who have endeavoured to cast a slur on the Presbyterian church, as existing in this country, and to bring its ministers into discredit with the people committed to their care. Such subjects should not be lightly undertaken: yet the writers in your Magazine especially R. have made the severest remarks without a due acquaintance with the principles or discipline of our church.

The writer of the retrospect considers the augmentation of R.D. as

an improper addition to the burdens of the people. That patriot must be truly considerate for the people, who complains that thirteen or fourteen thousand pounds are given from the public purse, to a respectable and deserving body in society. When it is considered, how richly the established church of this country is endowed, at the expense of all denominations, it is natural for Presbyterians and those of other sects, to desire some remuneration in return for those heavy contributions. The endowment of the college of Maynooth, and the R. D. granted to presbyterian ministers, and also to those of the Seceding persuasion are a small remuneration for their contributions to the established church, so far therefore from its being proper to consider the grants as an improper addition to the burdens of the people, other denominations might justly consider the church establishment more oppressive than it is; did the bounty of government not, in some degree, extend to them.

The author of the retrospect adds, "To the lovers of freedom, the measure is highly objectionable, as increasing the overgrown influence and patronage of the crown." Were the R. D. granted to each minister for a term depending on the pleasure of the crown, it is admitted, that "to the lovers of freedom, the measure would be highly objectionable." For in this case, ministers would be very improperly under the influence of the administration.—But according to the plan on which the R. D. is given, "the bounty once granted is, in no case, to be withdrawn from any minister, during his continuance in the charge of that particular congregation, so long as it shall please his Majesty, to continue his bounty to the body at large. "Of course, it cannot be conceived, how ministers can be improperly influenced by government;

while in actual possession of R. D. ministers cannot be tempted to abandon their patriotism, from any dread of losing it. Nor even among candidates for the ministry can we suppose the terms of the grant to be productive of dangerous effects. 'Tis true, his excellency, the Lord Lieutenant has a vote on the grant of bounty to each minister, at first: but this is merely with a view of guarding against "the disgrace and evil that would attend the appointing of a disloyal minister." Nor can we conceive it to have any more extensive influence. For the choice of a minister always rests completely with the people; and of course, no minister can be inducted into a congregation, whose principles they dislike. As to the veto, considered as a guard against disloyalty, it is undoubtedly reasonable, that those to whom his majesty grants bounty should be loyal subjects: Nor do I see in the requisition of government for each minister to take the oath of allegiance, any thing that even the most conscientious ministers should reprobate. The primitive teachers of christianity were enjoined to be in subjection to the ruling powers; and if I understand the ministerial office and character aright, the public teachers of religion, are not, except perhaps, in some very extraordinary cases, to interfere actively in civil matters. They have peculiar duties to discharge, the faithful performance of which will not permit them to actively interfere in the bustle of the political world. I do not say, that ministers should, in every case testify passive obedience and non-resistance—but I do say, that that attachment to government, which the receipt of bounty supposes, is not eversive of true civil liberty. Ministers will understand that the support of all men and of all measures, is not true le-

alty; and that the spirit of the oath of allegiance on the contrary, requires, that they should support the liberties of their country, in opposition to all, who, by corrupt measures, would destroy the native influence of our excellent constitution, and consequently tarnish the lustre of the British crown.

With respect to the comparative degrees of patriotism existing among the dissenting priesthood in 1782, and in the period since the augmentation, I am at a loss for want of something more explicit, to understand the exact meaning of the writer of the retrospect. I fear that he and I differ very much in our ideas of patriotism. I conceive, that true and rational loyalty is, by no means inconsistent with patriotism. And I am not aware that since the year 1803, when the R. D. was augmented, the presbyterian ministers have, by any public act forfeited their pretensions to true patriotism. Nor do I believe that any change of political character, to the injury of patriotic principles, has appeared in the body at large, since that period. The author of the retrospect has brought a charge in general terms, against the body of Presbyterian ministers. I now call upon him for the particular facts, on which he founds his charge. He has prudently declined considering the augmentation of R. D. as affecting Presbyterian principles: but that subject is taken up by your correspondent R. with what propriety or success, we shall see presently.

R. begins in a very high and lofty tone, by affirming, that no consistent Presbyterian would have asked the question, put by Simplex, which implies, that no condition in the late grants of R. D. encroaches on the discipline, or rights of the presbyterian church; for, adds he, "no one can seriously contend

that it is agreeable to presbyterian principles." Now, sir, I am one, who, in opposition to such dogmatical assertions, will contend that the conditions of the late grant of R. D. are agreeable to presbyterian principles: and that parity of rank amongst the pastors, and an unbiassed choice of their pastors or ministers by the people," are not "some of the essentials of a presbyterian church." In the kirk of Scotland, which is strictly a *presbyterian* church, the ministers are not chosen by the people. And it may be proper to inform R. that the great principle of distinction between the presbyterians and episcopalians, is, that the former in opposition to the latter, maintain, that the church should be governed by presbyteries, synods and (as in the kirk of Scotland,) by general assemblies. If parity of rank were essential to a presbyterian church, there never could have been a presbyterian church at all. For as congregations differ widely from one another in size and opulence, the stipend given to ministers must, of course, be larger in some congregations than others:—and even in private property; some ministers are greatly richer than others, so that in this kind of rank, there must ever be a disparity in the presbyterian church. But there must also, of necessity, be a disparity of rank in respect of intellectual acquirements, ability in the discharge of ministerial duties, and general consequence in society. For one minister has naturally better powers than another, or has enjoyed the advantages of a better education. But I will even go farther, and say, that even at Presbyterian and synodical meetings, there must unavoidably be some disparity among ministers.—For although it is necessary that they should possess equal ecclesi-

nical privileges and authority, yet one man, merely from possessing superior powers of understanding and of elocution, will have greater influence than another. The disparity of rank produced by classification therefore, is not inconsistent with presbyterian principles: because a similar disparity must necessarily exist in every state of the church. I do not pretend to say that the system of classification is a good one. I originally thought and do still think that the equalizing system would have been better; but for very different reasons from those assigned by R. and which it is not necessary for me at present to enumerate. By the bye, it may not be amiss to inform R. that he is incorrect in his account of the classification. The bounty is given not in two portions of £100, and £50, as he states, but in three and sixty-two. Ministers receive £400 per annum, 62, 75*l.* and 62, 50*s.*

Further, I contend, that ministers becoming more independent of their people than formerly is not at variance either with the principles they profess, or the constitution of the church. First, however, I must observe, that this greater independence, which some have so mightily insisted upon, as prejudicial to the presbyterian interest, is really much misrepresented. It is well known that money has greatly diminished in value, within the last 50 or 60 years: inasmuch that the augmentation of bounty has done little more than obviate the effect of that diminution. And if in any congregation a cry arose (though I do not believe there did,) that there was now no occasion to increase the stipend, but rather a propriety in diminishing it, in consequence of the augmentation of bounty, the people must have been most gro-

ly and absurdly ignorant of the rank which it is right the clergy should hold in society, as well as of the necessities of the times. Brought necessary of life has increased in price perhaps a third or more, in the last 50 years—and even in the matter of education alone, how extremely expensive is it to qualify a young man for any of the learned professions, now, compared with what it was, 15 or 20 years ago! A minister even of the first class, with all that can be reasonably expected from his congregation, will find it a sufficiently difficult matter to educate a family of five or six children in a liberal manner, especially if any are designed for the learned professions; unless he has something else to depend on than his stipend and bounty. It must appear therefore, that ministers are not so independent of their people now, any more than formerly, when the R. D. was only 32*l.* per annum; as to undervalue their contributions, or to think of relaxing their exertions in the discharge of their duty, because they no longer require their support.

When R. is informed that in the Scottish church the ministers are not paid by the people, and that, except in the *relief* church, the people do not even choose their own pastors, he will find, he has “totally mistaken the nature, and misapprehended the spirit of Presbyterianism.” The mode of choosing and paying ministers, forms no necessary part of Presbyterianism. At the same time, I consider our plan a better one than that of the Scottish establishment. And notwithstanding the exception made by some very sincere men to R. D. in any form, so far from considering it an evil, I am inclined to think it has always tended to promote the Presbyterian interest. In so far as it has contributed to raise

our ministers from among the lowest of the people, it has had a good effect, and at present it affords a tolerable provision, not subject to the irregularity or uncertainty of congregational collections, for such ministers as from age or infirmity, are under the necessity of having assistants.

As to the evil which R. forbodes, that the people "will slacken still more in their contributions, until the government stipend and their own, shall bear no manner of proportion to each other." I am confident, he will be completely mistaken. "Slacken still more"—more than what? I presume he means more than they have done already. But I do not believe, that any congregation has yet diminished its stipend. On the contrary, I know several that, on the settlement of a new minister, have increased their stipend, since the augmentation. If R. knows any congregation that has lowered its stipend, he will do well to mention it;—but I trust that congregations are too well aware of the necessities of the times, to think of withdrawing any part of their former support. Should any mean-spirited societies adopt this system, it is plain, that they themselves will also suffer—for a man of talents will scarcely think of preferring a small settlement to one that proposes to give him a better and more suitable support.

R. is incorrect again, in stating that "under these circumstances, should any disagreement arise, between a congregation and their pastor, the latter may retire on his sinecure; while the former, long unaccustomed to make due provision for their spiritual instruction, may feel both careless and incapable of procuring another, and thus, in a christian country, be deprived, for a time, of the preaching of the gos-

pel." When writers, instead of following simple truth, amuse themselves with phantoms of their own imaginations, there is no end to their absurdities. R. should have known, before he exposed himself so grossly, by writing the above passage, that it is not in the power of a minister to retire from the charge of a congregation, and procure an assistant, when he pleases. That matter rests with his presbytery, who will not suffer him to enjoy a sinecure, unless through age or infirmity, he be incapable of fully discharging the duties of his office. When this appears, an assistant and successor is sought for by the congregation—till whose appointment, should their minister be unable to preach, the presbytery supply the congregation. There is no instance, such as R. speaks of, of a congregation being deprived, for a time, of the preaching of the gospel. The discipline of the church makes every necessary provision for the instruction of the people.

To R.'s last paragraph, in which indeed there is nothing but assertion and supposition it is unnecessary to make any reply, as it appears to be a sort of deduction from his former incorrect statements. I shall therefore take leave of him, and of the writer of the *Retrospect*, by requesting, when they write again on this subject, they will treat Presbyterian ministers with a little more justice and candour; and that they will not, by mis-statements and unwarrantable insinuations, endeavour to make our people entertain an unfavourable opinion of their ministers' principles and conduct. Let truth be told respecting them, and let them, then, be left to the impartial judgment of the world.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.

A PRESBYTERIAN,

P.S. As an idea appears to have

taken possession of the minds of some imperfectly acquainted with the object that the principles and discipline of the Presbyterian church, as well as the patronising of its ministers, are essentially affected by their dependance on the crown; it may be proper to say a few words respecting the settlement and conduct of the Presbyterians in Ulster.

In the reign of James I., the Irish parliament gave an invitation to the Scots to settle in Ireland, for the purpose of promoting the reformed religion, and supporting the English interest. "The first Presbyterian ministers came over with this colony, under the sanction of government, not as Dissenters from the established church, but rather as commended in it; being so far encouraged and supported by the state, that all of them were inducted into the churches, and had the tithes. And Eehlin, bishop of Down, and Knox of Raphoe, joined with their presbyteries in their ordinations.— They frequently met and consulted with the bishops about affairs of common concernment to the interest of religion. Some of them were members of the convocation in the year 1631. The mutual moderation of the Episcopal and Presbyterians in Ireland, at that time, was of essential service to the settlement and plantation of Ulster." It would seem from this, that the Presbyterians did not consider their principles or discipline injured or destroyed, by their ministers receiving support from the crown, even at a time when zeal for truth and principle was much greater than it is at present. It may also be observed, that the arguments respecting freedom and patriotism, on which the writer of the *Retrospect* insists, will bear with equal or greater force against

the Presbyterians of those early times, as those of the present day. There was then greater hazard of their losing their livings, from the disturbed and fluctuating state of public affairs—and, of course, it might have been expected, they would have been more slavishly devoted to the civil power; but nothing of this appears. The patriotism of Presbyterians was such, that the parliament particularly sets forth their usefulness, in farther civilizing, strengthening, and securing this realm against rebels at home, and all foreign invasion." The Presbyterians have always been distinguished for that loyalty, which is dictated by a regard for the constitution, and a love of country. They opposed the violent measures of government under Charles, though they consented not to his death. They resisted the authority of the Rump parliament, and refused the oath called the *engagement*, which stood in opposition to the constitution. They afterwards opposed the usurpation of Cromwell, though at the risk of forfeiting the salary which they then had from government. I contend, therefore, that if support from government; even in the form of classification, (for we cannot suppose that the salaries resulting from the tithes were all equal,) were not inconsistent with the ancient principles and privileges of the Presbyterian church, nor yet hostile to the loyalty, to the patriotism of Presbyterian ministers, we have no reason to be alarmed for the safety of the Presbyterian interest, from the grant of R. D. made in modern times.

For the *Belfast Monthly Magazine*.

(RAMBLE, CONTINUED.)

From vol. 6, page 20.

THESE persons were young men, dressed quite *a-la-mode*; they

* Dr. Campbell's *Vindication*.

gave themselves what is usually called an air of consequence, and doubtless wished to impress on others their great importance; for in a few minutes they disclosed in their mingled chat, that they were persons of a very superior class, viz. ~~was~~ a ganger, a clerk, in a department of the revenue, and an apothecary, who answered very agreeably to the word doctor. He however "showed his facilities more meekly" than the others, for they stammered my ears "with the loud laugh that speaks the vacant mind," and if dress, as a great moralist has observed, "oft denotes the man," these must have been very bright gentlemen indeed. The lough here being only about an English mile in breadth, we soon reached the beach close by the ruins of Oldfleet-castle, and paying the fare, which was only one penny, I left my noisy companions, who were protesting to each other, as they groped their pockets, that they had *no change*! This I thought very strange, as they had previously agreed to give the boatman a five-penny-bit, and I rather suppose, that their present affirmation arose from neither being willing to be the generous person, for fear of not being reimbursed by the others. Be this as it may, I left them in this dilemma, and went to examine the forementioned ruin, thinking on the following words of the immortal Shakespear, that "nature had made strange fellows in her time." The present state of the ruin fully demonstrates the truth of an observation made by a late author, who says,—"buildings are always best preserved in places little frequented;" for several of the adjoining houses are evidently built of the stones torn from its walls. This peninsula, near the extremity of which this ruin stands, was formerly called Oldfleet, but now the Curran, which in the

Irish language signifies a Hook; the adjacent harbour is still in many modern maps and charts, called Oldfleet, which is certainly a corruption from its ancient name. History and tradition are silent as to the founding of this building, yet its shape leaves reason to suppose it to be one of those founded by the English, after their conquest of the country; it was formerly considered a most important fortress, as it protected the place against the visits of the Scots; in 1550, Sir Moses Hill, ancestor to the marquis of Downshire, was governor. May 28th, 1603, James I. granted this peninsula to Sir Randal Mac Sorley Mac Donald, of Dunluc, and on the 14th July, 1666, he received a regrant of the same. The castle and lands were afterwards granted by James I. in the 10th of his reign, to Sir Arthur Chichester, and the right of the ferry between this place and island Magee, also the ancient church and lands of Clundumales, consisting of about 15 acres: Oldfleet lands were at the same time attached to the manor of castle Chichester, island Magee. This place gives title of Baron to Trevor Hill, Viscount Dungannon. On the 25th April, or May, 1815, Lord Edward Bruce arrived here, and landed from a fleet of barques about 6000 men; numerous bodies of the Irish flocked to his standard, and both massacred the English settlers; and Bruce defeating Richard de Burgo, Earl of Ulster, near Colerain, desolated the country in the most wanton manner, and laid siege to Carrickfergus. But to proceed on my journey, I now set off to Larne, which was only about one mile distant: the sea on the left, each tide, overflows a large tract of land between it and the town, which could easily be reclaimed into excellent meadow, or pasturage; yet none of the gentle-

men, I was told, evince even a wish to rob old Neptune of any part of his domain; which is really surprising, as from the increasing value of land, a few years would pay the expense of the undertaking. Larne consists of an old and new town, the latter chiefly of one long street, pretty well built of stone, the houses of which have generally an air of neatness; in the old town the houses are also mostly decent, but the street and lanes are narrow, crooked, and badly paved, so that it has but an indifferent appearance. By accounts taken January 1st, 1808, the number of dwelling-houses in both was 421, and the families 563; containing 2512 persons, 1120 of whom were males, and 1392 females. The inhabitants, from their numerous places of public worship, seem rather of a religious cast, there being an established church, three dissenting meeting-houses, and a catholic and methodist chapels. There are two large book clubs here, that of the gentlemen is said to be extensive and well chosen, the other has also some valuable works; in the town is likewise a circulating library. Markets are held here on the first Monday of each month, for linen-yarn, &c. fairs are also held the 31st July, and 1st of December. Here are large flour-mills and a linen-bleach-field, but the chief business is the cotton, chiefly the calico branch, the weaving of which employs a considerable number of hands, very few being employed weaving linen.—There is likewise a manufactory of sail-cloth, and two small rope walks. Early on the morning of June 7th, 1798, a slight skirmish took place here between a party of the king's troops, and a large body of insurgents, in which the former, by the imprudence of the officers commanding, had three killed, and the same

number wounded, among whom was the commandant; the latter one killed, and some wounded: the party of the army however kept possession of their barrack, till relieved next day by a detachment from Carrickfergus.

(To be concluded in our next.)

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

DEFECT IN THE FRONT OF THE NEW CHAPEL.

CONSIDERING the new chapel in Donegall-street, in an architectural point of view solely (for as to its other effects they are matters with which I never meddle, leaving every man to his own *orthodoxy*, as I wish to be left to mine,) I was much pleased with its progress, promising as it did to form an handsome ornament to an handsome street. But just as I thought the point had arrived at a state, when any blunder in it was almost impossible, when even it was ready for the last coping stone, I have the disappointment to find that the ingenuity of man in going astray is beyond calculation, and that in laying this very last course, the builders have contrived to disfigure the whole pile, so as to take away much more from the appearance of the street than I hoped it would have added. It might be thought that when the front was so near completion, so great a change was impossible: but let any one consider how a handsome lady would look, dressed becomingly in every other respect, who to finish her toilet, should clap on her head a grenadier's cap, a judges wig, a coal-scuttle, or any other preposterous article, and he will have some idea how an incongruous termination may spoil the look of a building, that but for it would have been ornamental to the town.

I admire the Grecian architecture

B B

for its grandeur and sublimity, and I admire that (which is falsely called the Gothick) still more, for the admirable skill and science, added to a sublimity no ways inferior, which I have seen displayed in the fine specimens of it, that I have viewed with so much delight. But like many other good things they will not bear to be mixed, every attempt at uniting the two orders invariably ending in monstrous incongruity, and disgusting deformity.

It is an error of this nature that has disfigured the building in question, for the entrance or vestibule, has been so disposed as to terminate in a pediment, which is a member of architecture entirely of Grecian origin; and yet a most unaccountable perversion of taste has led the planner of the building, whoever he may be, to finish this pediment with an embattled parapet, a species of finishing used in Gothic architecture only, and which, so far from being ornamental, makes it look so extremely anomalous, that it might almost be worshipped without a breach in the second commandment, "not being the likeness of any thing in heaven above, the earth beneath, or the waters under the earth."

The embattled parapet is moreover independent of architectural considerations, an improper termination for a place of worship dedicated to the religion of the Meek Jesus, who both by precept and example discouraged every thing of a warlike nature. This kind of parapet was first used for fortresses, and castles; and other places of defence in war; and from the old castles being in other points of the Gothic architecture, come to be considered and used for a termination to buildings of that order, intended for very different purposes. This parapet was in fact a mode of defence against small arms, and the arrows used when

the old castles were built; the from behind it the besieged might discharge their missive weapons without being much exposed; and with equal propriety (as the use of this parapet for a christian place of worship) the church yard should be surrounded with a ditch, rampart covered way, and glacis, and have embrasures with cannons in the proper places. That the embattled parapet is not a necessary termination to a Gothic building for religious purposes, any more than a congruous one, is evident from many instances where other kinds of parapets are used; but in this case one example will suffice, especially as it is of undisputed authority, which is that elegant specimen of the Gothic order, St. Mary Radcliff in Bristol, which is so justly admired (and for its beauty and perfection, added to its small dimensions, may well be called the Gothic gem); where the parapet is formed of a species of open work in angular compartments, perfectly congruous to the Gothic arch; and which has an effect extremely light and rich and harmonious in the most pleasing manner with the beautiful whole.

In giving this last parapet the encomiums it so justly deserves, there is no intention of recommending it as a model for the new chapel; it would indeed be almost as unsuitable to the stile of the building as the one now used: but certainly, filling up the embrasures, and placing the coping stones in right lines in continuation in all parts of the front, but particularly in the part over the vestibule (resembling a pediment, would be a very obvious improvement, which among other advantages would have cheapness to recommend it; and is worthy of notice, that had the parapet been built in this way at first, it would have cost considerably less than the embattled

parapet, which so much disfigures the building.

It may be useful in concluding to state the fact, that the writer can have no view in what is above inserted, but that stated, as he is not a builder himself, and has no knowledge whatsoever even of the names of the designers of the new chapel, which is creditable to them in all points as yet exhibited, except in that mentioned. B.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE PROGRESSIVE STEPS IN IMPROVEMENT.

APPROVING of that friendly discussion, which gives a zest to literary correspondence, and like the animated no in conversation, recommended by Cowper, enlivens the pages of a periodical work, I am inclined to make a few observations on two essays which have lately appeared in your magazine.—Such discussions often by their collision, produce a spark, with which to kindle the lamp of truth to enlighten us through the dark passages of life, and can do no damage, if care is taken to keep remote from the gunpowder train of the passions, and from all consequent danger of explosion.

A. P. censures George Ensor, who in his Essay on National Government, blames the people for their disinclination to political reform, and for that apathy, which is the present epidemic. I see nothing to induce me to think that George Ensor's censure is misplaced or mistimed. We must admit that the majority of the people are too inert, and require to be roused, and if this end be obtained, it is altogether indifferent, whether the arguments are drawn from the theories of materialism or immaterialism. We may proceed to prac-

tice without delaying too long in ascertaining the theory. The habit of apathy is at present a desperate disease. The skilful physician directs his remedies to the existing state of disease, and judiciously administers corroborants and stimulants in cases of debility and languor; while he would direct sedatives in a contrary diagnosis. According to my view of our political state, we require something to arouse us, but not to be furnished with a nostrum to afford us a plausible excuse for our indolence. I hope however from the conclusion of his essay, that I have A. P. more with me than I expected from his introductory remarks. In his attack on reform, I think we have him in reality on our side, while he playfully brandishes against us his polished shaft of irony.

But I am afraid to give the enemies of reform an apparent triumph, by having such an advocate for a moment in their ranks. If the people are too generally supine, and negligent to their best interests, it is the duty of the friends of reform, to keep at their posts, and to give the alarm of danger, whether their warnings are attended to, or neglected. The few who are enlightened, must keep before the multitude, endeavour to draw them on, and incessantly stimulate to virtuous exertions. To such precursors, and heralds of reform, mankind have in all ages been greatly indebted, and found among them their best benefactors; and these have been in the end repaid for all the obloquy thrown on them by the revilers of merit, and been amply compensated by the calm approbation of their own minds, and the grateful tribute of a judicious few. The names of Milton, Sidney, Locke, and many other illustrious defenders of liberty, will be remembered with well merited gratitude, as the friends of man, while the Filmer, and the

supporters of arbitrary principles will be forgotten, or be remembered with disgust. I might adduce illustrious names of later date, but I forbear from reasons of prudence. I am not a friend to reforms brought about by force, but I earnestly desire to see the friends of reform rally round its standard, and incessantly persevere through reproach, through evil report, and every difficulty, in their exertions to enlighten their countrymen. But may the well wishers to this great and glorious cause, who are gifted with talents to do much good to it, never betray their trust, through timidity, indolence, or any indulgence of the selfish passions. May they keep on the alert, their opponents are active, and they with so much a better cause, should not be behind them in vigilance. Much injury has been done by precipitate attempts at reform, but much loss may be also sustained by temporizing and timid delay. If we wait too long for experience to confirm the benefit of change, the occasion may pass by, and we may waste our lives in *strenuous idleness*.

I now turn to another correspondent, who remarks on a note in a former number on the names of the months. I am unconvinced by his reasoning, that calling the months by a numerical name adapted to a former calendar, is not a misnomer, while according to the calendar now in use, and the act of parliament which altered the style, it is declared, that January shall be the first month. According to the old style, the 7th month was with sufficient propriety demonstrated September, now it appears inconsistent to retain the former appellation, when it is the 9th in order. If the simple numerical course were adopted, there is no room to dread, foolish as nations are, that such a change would furnish cause for serious quarrels,

and wars, or that the change of seasons in the northern and southern hemispheres, a circumstance well known to most school-boys, would be any material obstruction to the changes of the names. The beginning of the year has been fixed at both the vernal and autumnal equinox, and a little after the winter solstice, without any disadvantage or inconvenience in either system. If it were continued as it now is, we in the northern hemisphere might commence our mode of reckoning, as it now stands, while those of the southern would have their winter in the middle instead of the end of their year. For an argument either for or against the alteration, I shall not go back to the tower of Babel, or stop to notice which system is most calculated to produce confusion.

It is also objected, that other matters of more confusion require to be reformed before this, an alteration, confessedly of small importance be made. With those who dislike reform no time is ever suitable, so by a parity of reasoning no subject is suitable, because other cases perhaps more important can be pointed out, in which reform ought to begin. But if we are to set about reform, we must begin somewhere. This I admit is a case of no great importance, but it is well to be right even in trifles, while we are careful not to attach too much importance to them. It may be the safest way neither to be indifferent to reform in smaller matters, nor to attempt to swell them into importance.

It is objected that the French made not any approach to propriety in their change of the calendar. I consider that to see and avoid an error, is some approach to propriety, although I do not conceive they adopted the proper mode of rectifying the error. I think they fell into another error in their manner

d amending the former one. I would have liked better the numerical mode. But in this instance, as in many others, the French appear to have had a quick sense of errors, but were not sufficiently cool to apply the best remedies to correct them. Bonaparte, I conceive, revoked the new calendar merely to facilitate his views in removing, as far as he could, all traces of the revolution out of his own road to arbitrary power. However unsuccessful the French revolution has hitherto been, and how much soever the good effects resulting from it have as yet been marred, by the passions engendered under the old system of errors and prejudices, by the unprincipled concert of princes against the new born liberty, and by the self-interest and ambition of Bonaparte, I cannot concede that it ought to be called "the era of folly and madness." I contemplate it in a very different character. I lament the excesses, the acts of violence, and the errors with which it was accidentally attended, but I think I perceive in it, the germ of future improvements, and that philanthropists will hereafter refer to it, as the commencement of an epoch of amelioration, when the dreadful fermentation may have subsided, and according to a kind, and always operative law of our nature, good has been produced out of evil. I do not expect, and certainly I do not desire, the permanency of the Napoleonic dynasty, but having long been convinced of the necessity of a change, from the accumulated abuses and prejudices of former times, and long cherished the hope that the French revolution was the commencement, or perhaps rather the forerunner of an era of reform, I cannot readily bring myself utterly to abandon my hopes. To use a significant, but not a courtly phrase of a nervous writer,

I wish "to see nations breeched into manhood."

I consider the present period as a season of obscurity, but in contemplating it, I continue to cling to a hope beautifully and energetically expressed by Gray, and with which I once before on another occasion enriched your pages—

"Fond impious man, think'st thou yea
sanguine cloud,
Rain'd by thy breath, has quench'd the orb
of day,
To-morrow he repairs the golden flood,
And warms the nations with redoubled
ray."

At least I will cherish the hope as long as I can, and forbear to the last extremity, to despair of the progressive improvement of mankind. K.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

I PUT it to the candour and good sense of R. whether he thinks he has answered my plain question.—"Can the author of the political retrospect justify his frequent and severe attacks upon dissenting ministers, by pointing out a single condition in the grant of the R. D. that encroaches on the discipline, the doctrine, or the rights of the dissenting church?"

Has he pointed out one condition, that has corrupted or injured our church? Not one—since then no injury has been done, I might here dismiss him on the merits; but as he has alleged one injury, and only one actually done, I shall examine that, and then proceed to his *probabilities* and conjectures.

It is alleged, that the patriotism of dissenting ministers, at its meridian glory, in 1782, has declined since the augmentation.—This I deny. The old whig principles; not the *overthrowing* principles of after times,

animated their bosoms in 1782, and still continue to animate them. And if they have not been as forward in avowing these principles of late years, their silence has been owing to their abhorrence of those revolutionizing principles that have been since grafted on the tree of rational liberty, and have produced nothing but *sour, rotten, and bitter* fruit. This perversion of the original principles of reform to the purposes of revolutionizing democracy, and the consequent staining of the cause by the unprincipled having recourse to criminal means, united with the conviction of the injurious consequences resulting from the interference of the church with the state, determined them as *ministers* to decline meddling with politics. But be it understood, that in a civil view they fear not to acknowledge, that they are the same friends to a constitutional reform, that they were in 1782. The augmentation has not made them tories—as to the additional burthen to the people, (an argument never adduced before by the reviewer, though here alleged to be his principle argument,) the whole amount of the grant has been ere now bestowed upon three or four miscreants, without exciting such a clamour as has been excited against this moderate and seasonable remuneration to 180 useful instructors, not for nominal offices, or sinecures, but for service actually done to the community.

If requiring the oath of allegiance be “*encreasing the influence of the crown*,” it is an encrease that the King can require of all, or any of his subjects, when he and his council think proper. Nor is this any *additional* qualification, having been always required, and continuing to be required at every minister's ordination, before the people, and

since the augmentation, before two magistrates.

As to the unequal distribution of the R. D. to one third, 50*l*, to another third, 75*l*, to another third 100*l*; though this plan is objectionable, as not proportioning the reward to the duty, nor to the necessity of the rewarded persons, yet does it not create a disparity of rights or even of influence. There is no distinction of ranks, of rights or of orders, in our church. Superior talents and probity retain the pre-eminence they are entitled to, in our ecclesiastical assemblies, but these are no more exclusively attached to classes, now, than they were to higher stipends, before classification took place. Seven years experience has not made the slightest encroachment on our primitive equality.

The right of the people to choose their own pastors, has not been once encroached upon, though it is most unfairly insinuated by R. that an encroachment has been made on this right. As to independence of the people, be it remembered that seven years enjoyment of this *mere competence* has not made them corrupt partizans of the state, nor has it relaxed their endeavours to promote the spiritual interests of the people.

Where then is that love of truth, of liberty and of christian clarity, with which the *Belfast Magazine* made its auspicious *debut*. Is either of these manifested in the— But I hope the reviewer has fallen into the common error of supposing that the g—t were to have a veto on the people's choice, and that he will candidly acknowledge and recant that error. I shall now take my leave of R. after having proved, that no encroachment has been made on the rights, or purity of the

dissenting church, in accepting from an *extern* hand, that allowance for the *double*, or *trebled* price of every article of consumption, which they *ought* to have received from their respective congregations.

SIMPLEX.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE ORIGIN OF THE REGIUM DONUM IN ENGLAND.

I LATELY met with the following account of the Regium Donum in England, extracted from the London magazine of 1774, written, it is alleged by Dr. Mayo, an acquaintance of the late Dr. Johnson, of whom mention is made in Boswell's life of that author.

Lord Castlereagh has proved himself the worthy successor to the principles and practices of Sir Robert Walpole. Both set up on whig principles, but having mounted the ladder, their schemes centered in practical toryism. It is curious to observe so great a coincidence of language and conduct between the donors and acceptors in 1723, and those in the present day. May we not now say that the fears expressed by Dr. Mayo, as to the effects of the Regium Donum on the independence of the dissenting clergy have been since in many instances verified?

"The origin of the Regium Donum was in April, 1723.—Fatal æra! for then protestant dissenting ministers first became state pensioners, and ministerial tools. At that time the dissenters expected, what for years before they had justly merited of the Brunswick line,—a complete restoration of all their natural rights and religious privileges. They had often reason to complain of bishops and statesmen, in former reigns; but, under George the wise and

steady, they depended on obtaining the repeal of every statute, which infringed the right of private judgment, violated the liberty of conscience, and made odious distinctions between one good subject and another.

"Sir Robert Walpole was then chancellor of the exchequer, a statesman, who knew too well, for the real interests of his country, the passions which are most apt to be predominant in the heart, and whom no man ever equalled in the application of gold. By this he daily converted his enemies into friends, and so charmed even the flaming votaries of liberty, dissenting ministers not excepted, as to reconcile them to corruption, and even to court flattery, and rejoice in them. He had observed, from year to year, the wonderful effects, which the smiles of the treasury-bench had on all ranks of men; and finding that the protestant dissenters, after being many years trifled with, were moving in earnest to obtain deliverance from their bondage, he cloistered a few of their ministers whom he thought to have the most influence among their brethren, and who would best answer his purposes. In their presence, he wore the mask of friendship, and sanctity—he complimented them on their great abilities—assured them he had the heartiest zeal for the protestant dissenters, and their interests—lamented the poverty and small incomes of many of their ministers through the kingdom, and that any laws should hang over their heads. The reverend gentlemen (like their successors of the present day) were soon overpowered with his condescension, eloquence and goodness. He then declared his readiness to serve them any way, even in parliament, for the repeal of the cruel statutes against them: but the present year, 1723, was a very impro-

per time—he, the greatest friend they had, would not advise them to apply that session; if they did, it would greatly injure, if not ruin the cause; but the postponing it would greatly promote its success in a future period. A respectful postponing of it was very likely to obtain its success; whereas, to bring it on, without any regard to circumstances, or contrary to the advice of the best judges, and their most able advocates, might be called rashness, and would do dishonour to the cause. The language of courtiers and their tools is the same from one generation to another.

“To enforce this reasoning, he drew 500*l.* out of the treasury, by a warrant payable to a surgeon, and which was paid by another agent into the hands of nine ministers.—The bait was, “Pray receive this for the use and comfort of the widows of dissenting ministers, till administration can more effectually serve your cause.” But a strict charge was given with the money, that the matter should be kept very secret. Grateful Sir Robert! to conceal the virtues of his royal master, and not suffer his favourites so much as to speak of this considerable taste or royal bounty, which was also promised to be annual.

“Some few years after, for their good services to administration, and to enable them to do more, the sum was increased and advanced to 850*l.* half yearly. This is the present value of the treasury warrant; but there are large fees and deductions.”

“Notwithstanding the baneful tendency and effects of the *Regium Donum*, many dissenters have contended, that still it is of great benefit to the interest, as relieving many poor ministers, with their widows and children, repairing their places of worship, and upholding many antipædobaptist congregations in the

country which, without this royal bounty, would not exist. But these advocates should consider, that, as the money is not designed by the treasury, so it is not limited by the present almoners, to such uses. But if every farthing were thus applied, what are all its advantages when weighed against the disgrace it fixes upon the dissenters, as pensioners and tools of every administration?

“A few years past, a very respectable person, then in a high office, was much offended with his friend, a late eminent dissenting minister near London, for the complaints he made in behalf of his brethren, of the difficulties they laboured under in point of religious liberty; and retorted, “*it was well known they received a handsome sum of money from government to silence their complaints as well as their applications—therefore, they should either nobly throw up the grant, or remain in silence.*”

“The troubles and evils produced by the *Regium Donum* among the body of ministers themselves, are too well known. It hath been an Achan's wedge in their camp. It hath furnished some with means to encourage separations, and support parties and divisions in city and country. It hath enabled former almoners to appear at public collections, charity-dinners, &c. &c. as very rich, or exceedingly generous, to the disparagement of their brethren. The poor country-ministers have esteemed them superlatively benevolent and godlike, believing their donations to be their own property; and have been led to lightly esteem and censure other London-ministers as covetous or hardhearted, because their benefactions were not equal to those of the *Regium Donum-men*. But the greatest evil is, it hath procured the almoners an influence and power both in city and country, that is dangerous

and may be fatal to the cause at large.

"The dissenting ministers, by their pusillanimous conduct respecting the Regium Donum, (which, with equal propriety, hath been otherwise stiled *hush-money*) seem not to have considered the axiom, that a tree which has but just taken root may be removed by a single hand; but let it alone, it will strike so deep, and grow so high, that thousands cannot root it up from its foundation. The head of a spring may be stopped with a very small dam, but when suffered to take its course, encreasing to a large river, it fills the country, and an army of elephants cannot pass it. It is, therefore, high time for the London-ministers either to reprobate this connection with administration, or to prove to the treasury, that the gentlemen who receive the £1700 annually, without account, however, reputable and worthy, as christians and ministers, are *not the representatives of the body*, in that or any other point."

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SUPERSTITION EXTRAORDINARY.

IN 1651, Mr. John Dee, in a work published in London, defines "Perspective" to be "an Art Mathematical, which demonstrateth the nature and properties of all radiations, direct, broken, and reflected." And "glass," according to him, "is a general name, in catoptrike, for any thing from which a beam reboundeth." "Is it not greatly," he asks, "against the sovereignty of man's nature, to be overshoot and abused with things (at hand) before his eyes? as with a peacock's tail, and a dove's neck: or a whole ore, in water holden, to seem broken: things far off to seem near, and near, to seem far off: small

things to seem great, and great to seem small. One man to seem an army. Or a man to be curstly afraid of his own shadow. Yea, so much, to fear, that if you being alone, near a certain glasse, and professe with dagger or sword, to foyn at the glasse, you shall suddenly be moved to give back (in manner,) by reason of an image appearing in the ait, between you and the glasse, with like hand, sword or dagger, and with like quickness foyning at your eye, likewise as you do at the glasse. Strange this is to hear off, but more marvellous to behold, than these my words can signifie. And nevertheless by demonstration optically, the order, and cause thereof, is certified: even so as the affect is consequent. Yea, thus much more dare I take upon me, toward the satisfying of the noble courage that longeth ardently for the wisdom of causes naturall: as to let him understand, that in London, he may with his own eyes, have proof of that, of which I have said herein. A gentleman, (which for his good service done to his country, is famous and honourable: and for skill in the mathematicall sciences, and languages, is the odde man of this land, &c.) even he is able: and, (I am sure,) will very willingly let the glasse and proof be seen: and so I (here) request him; for the increase of wisdom, in the honourable, and for the stopping of the mouths malicious: and repressing the arrogancy of the ignorant: ye may easily guess what I mean." These last words will be best explained by the author's long and querulous "Digression Apologetical." "And for these, and such like marvellous acts and feats, naturally, mathematically, and mechanically, wrought and contrived: ought any honest student,

• Dr. W. P.

and modest christian philosopher, be counted and called a conjurer?" It appears that the foolish and superstitious multitude, not contented with verbal abuse, destroyed the large collection of instruments, manuscripts, and printed books, which he had painfully amassed at Mortlake, in Surry, "as belonging to one who dealt with the Devil." T.

Philosophical Magazine, 20, p. 19.

MR. J. FARCY says, I had occasion in the year 1801, to visit one of captain Mudge's stations in the grand Trigonometrical survey, on the top of Quainton-hill, Aylesbury: and being surprised while there, by a considerable explosion, I hastened to the pit, near where some workmen had just blasted a large piece of rock into fragments. On inquiring their process, they assured me they used no gunpowder, but simply undermined the rock for about a yard in length, and half a yard in depth, and introduced a small fagot of brushwood, furze, or a bundle of straw, into the cavity, and set it on fire, and that, in a few seconds, the confined air in the stone, blew up with great force. The fragments of the explosion I had heard were lying about, much the same as they would have been thrown by a blast of gun-powder. I saw in the pit several other excavations forming under blocks of two or three feet thickness, intended to be blasted up in the same manner. T.

Philosophical Magazine, 20, p. 208.

If a person should fall out of a boat, or a boat upset, or he should fall off the quays, or indeed fall into any water from which he could not extricate himself, but must wait some little time for assistance, had he presence of mind enough to whip off his hat, and hold it by the brim,

placing his fingers withinside the crown, and hold it so, (top downwards,) he would be able by this method, to keep his mouth well above water, till assistance should reach him. Indeed, even a swimmer will not hastily go near a drowning person, let him swim ever so well; for with his clothes on, he is fully occupied in keeping himself above water, and dares not risk being seized in a disadvantageous position, by persons devoid of all recollection (arising from their perilous situation) and ready to grasp at every thing that comes within their reach. But if the swimmer could take with him into the water any thing that would support from five to ten pounds weight, he would be able, perhaps, to render assistance, without danger to himself. This desirable object seems to me attainable by the proper use of a man's hat, and pocket-handkerchief, which, (being all the apparatus necessary) is to be used thus:—Spread the handkerchief on the ground, and place a hat with its brim downwards, on the middle of the handkerchief; and tie the handkerchief round the hat, as you would tie up a bundle, keeping the knots as near the centre of the crown of the hat as may be.—Now by seizing the knots in one hand, and keeping the opening of the hat upwards, a person, without knowing how to swim, may fearless plunge into the water, with what may be necessary to save the life of a fellow creature.

But where time and circumstances will permit, various modes may be adopted: as taking two hats and tying the two ends of a walking-stick into the knots of the handkerchiefs, and then seizing the stick by the middle; or, indeed, as many hats may be put on the walking stick as it will hold; which will not be less

than four, giving a buoyancy equal to 28 pounds or more, without the risk of the hats filling with water. If instead of a stick, two hats were connected together by a handkerchief, the hats may be used to swim with, as boys use corks. It often happens that danger is descried long before we are involved in the peril, and time enough to prepare some one of the above mentioned methods; and a courageous person, I am confident, would, seven instances out of ten, apply to them with success; and travellers in fording rivers at unknown fords, or where shallows are deceitful, might make use of these methods with advantage. By experiments I have made, it appears that a common sized hat, such as is now in fashion, will support more than ten pounds weight, without sinking; but with a weight of about seven pounds, it would not be liable to fill, even if there was a little ripple on the water. The handkerchief applied as above directed, covering the open part of the hat prevents it being readily filled by the splashing of the water; and as it is well known that the human body is nearly of the same specific gravity as water, it must be evident that a buoyancy of seven pounds will, if properly managed, keep the head above the surface till more effectual assistance is procured.

HENRY LAWSON.

Philosophical Magazine, 20, p. 362.

T.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

EDUCATION OF THE POOR.

THE Edinburgh reviewers speaking of the illiberal opposition which has been urged against the scheme of Joseph Lancaster, for the education of the poor, very forcibly observe, "how much more enlightened and rational authority have we in the

conduct of the king of England—the patron of the Lancastrian system!—and how noble is the commentary upon it which his own memorable speech to the author of the system affords!—We allude to that exalted saying of his (which we own strikes us as infinitely finer than the celebrated wish of Henry 4th of France) that he hoped to see the day when every poor child in his dominions should be able to read his bible."

This sentiment is indeed noble, and if generally extended would, in process of time, redress many of the miseries of the Irish people—to contribute to this important end is the duty of every true lover of his country, and it is under that impression, I request your insertion of an epitome of the plan of Lancaster, as abridged from an admirable article on the subject of the education of the poor in the *Edinburgh review*, No. 33, for November, 1810. To those who may not immediately have an opportunity of perusing this valuable article, this brief view of Lancaster's plan may prove not merely amusing, but instructive; the scheme is so clear, and so feasible, that persons of very moderate means may carry it into execution. They will see it reduced to practice at the *daily School*, established by the Quakers, and still chiefly under their direction, in *School-street, Dublin*; and if this sketch contribute to the establishment of similar seminaries in his native country, it will fulfil the heart-felt wishes of its compiler*.

* We have felt much pleasure in recording at different times the schools which have been established in Ireland on Lancaster's plan, and we hope much good will result from the instruction of the poorer classes of the Irish, whose ignorance has been their great misfortune. To a want of consideration, the natural consequence of ignorance, we must attribute many of their errors. The Edinburgh re-

In 1798, Joseph Lancaster began to exercise the honourable profession of a school-master; his plan was from the beginning to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic, to the children of the lower orders, and to save the first great expense of school-masters' salaries, he employed the elder boys to assist in teaching. The next great expense of a school arises from the consumption of books and materials for writing; to diminish this cost, J. Lancaster introduced the admirable method of making a number of boys read from the same lesson printed in large characters and suspended on the wall, and the no less useful substitute of slates for paper, whereby not only the waste of that expensive article is saved, but *any number* of boys are enabled to spell and write the same word at the same time, *without the possibility* of one being idle while the other is at work, or rather, as in the ordinary mode of education, *nineteen* being idle while *one is employed*; the same degree of alertness is kept up by the method of reading, as it were all together—which requires the failure of one boy to be corrected by the next, for the sake of taking his place, prevents the possibility of idleness or inattention. *His next step* towards the accomplishment of his great and beneficial purpose was *his mode of teaching arithmetic* by the suggestion of a method whereby read-

viewers mention that in Gloucester, where the first Sunday-school was established, by the benevolent Raikes, the clergyman who attended the prison, stated that out of three thousand boys who had been educated at the Sunday-school, only one boy had been imprisoned in that gaol for any crime. This circumstance must act as a powerful stimulus to those who wish for the amelioration of their fellow creatures, and shows the great benefit of impressing the minds of children with good moral sentiments.—(B. M. M.)

ing *alone* is rendered sufficient to make any one teach arithmetic. The invention is as simple as it is efficacious; it consists in giving to one boy who can read, a written or printed particular, if we may so speak, of the operation in cyphering, which is to be performed, and making him distinctly read over to any number of boys furnished with slates, the words and figures given to him thus, the lesson is to be in addition

234

567

801

and in order to teach this lesson to 30 boys, *one* of whom can read and the other 29 can write the nine figures, and understand notation, a key is given to the reader, consisting of the following words, first column 7 and 4 are eleven, set down 1 under the seven, and carry one to the next second column; six and three are nine, and one 1 carried are ten, set down 0 and carry 1 to the next third column; 5 and 2 are seven and one 1 carried are 8; total in figures 801; total in words, eight hundred and one." After each boy has written the two lines 234 and 567 one under the other, the reader takes the above key and reads it audibly, while each of the 29 obey it, by writing down as it directs; each boy also reads over the sum total after the reader has finished, and he then inspects the slates one after the other; the whole are thus kept perpetually awake, and by repeated lessons of the same kind the rule required is fixed in their minds: into the details of his discipline we cannot now enter, which are devised with a thorough knowledge of his subject, derived as much from long experience as from just and even philosophical reasoning, where 800 or 1000 children are to be instructed by one master, it was necessary

to establish, and he has completely established a discipline which enables his authority to reach all over the body, and supply the want of actual inspection, and this object is attained by applying to his school the organization of a regiment, and its evolutions under the word of command. L.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE USE OF STRAMONIUM IN THE SPASMODIC ASTHMA.

AT page 146 of the last Magazine, a short account was given of stramonium in spasmodic asthma, a more full account is now added, extracted from several letters from a correspondent to Phillips' Monthly Magazine, published during the course of last year. It is communicated in this magazine, as from the relation there appear grounds to hope that stramonium is of essential service in a most afflictive disease, and it may be useful to extend the knowledge of its efficacy :

A writer in the London Monthly Magazine after describing his former good state of health, and the luxurious indulgence into which he had fallen, thus proceeds :—" This career of pleasure was however soon interrupted by the depredations it produced upon my constitution ; the first signs of impaired health, and clouded vivacity, were soon succeeded by the most severe and afflictive attacks of spasmodic asthma, which returned at intervals of eight or ten days, with such cruel violence, that all the agreeable anticipations of life became in a manner extinguished ; and during the course of several years, I was afraid to indulge in the hopes of recovery, from my complaint. At last, by a most fortunate accident, I was induced to make trial of an herb called *stru-*

monium ; from which auspicious moment I have been restored, not merely to a tolerable, but to a comfortable and reasonably happy state of existence.

" The asthmatic paroxysm usually came on about two o'clock in the morning, when I was suddenly surprised from sleep with violent convulsive heavings of the chest ; and I was scarcely allowed time to place myself upright in a chair, where I sat resting myself upon my elbows and with my feet upon the ground (for I could not bear them in an horizontal posture,) before I underwent a sense, as it were, of immediate suffocation. These fits generally continued, with short intermissions, from thirty-six hours to three days and nights successively ; during which time I have often, in the screaming agonies of death, given myself over, and even wished for that termination of my miseries.

" It was in a great measure in vain that I consulted the most eminent physicians in the metropolis ; they only afforded me a transient and tantalizing relief. An amiable friend, and respectable surgeon at Hackney, first persuaded me to smoke the divine stramonium, to which I owe altogether, my present freedom from pain, and renewed capacity of enjoyment. It is the root only, and lower part of the stem, which seem to possess its anti-asthmatic virtue ; these should be cut into small pieces, and put into a common tobacco pipe, and the smoke must be swallowed together with the saliva produced by the smoke ; after which the sufferer will, in a few minutes, be relieved from all the convulsive heavings, and probably drop into a comfortable sleep, from which he will awake refreshed, and in general, perfectly recovered : at least, this is the invincible effect produced upon myself. He should by all means avoid drink-

ing with the pipe, a too ordinary accompaniment of smoking. I once took some brandy and water with the pipe, but it proved a very improper combination: a dish of coffee, however, I often take after it, and find it highly refreshing. I should mention that strong coffee has frequently been recommended to me, but never produced any beneficial effect as a cure for asthma.

"The stramonium is delightfully fragrant; and although it has been regarded hitherto as of a poisonous nature when taken inwardly, yet I have smoked a dozen of pipes at a time, without experiencing from them any other inconvenience than a slight excoriation, or soreness of the tongue.

"Some persons have regarded the smoking of stramonium as a species of ebriety, or as the use merely of one of those ordinary opiates, that people are apt to have recourse to in order to relieve a paroxysm of pain, whether it originates from a mental or a corporeal cause, by which they purchase a temporary suspension of misery at the expense of permanent injury. Stramonium, however, used in a proper manner, produces effects essentially different from that of any intoxicating drug that I am acquainted with. It acts favourably upon the feelings of the mind only inasmuch as it alleviates the pain of the body; neither is its first and happy influence succeeded, as in the use of opiates or narcotics by depression, lassitude, or stupor.

"So far from stramonium having induced that torpor and sluggishness that smoking tobacco or hops has frequently occasioned, I am confident that without the assistance of that invaluable remedy, I should not have been able to go through the exertions that my daily avocations call for. As far as my experience

has gone, and it is of some standing, the stramonium has not lost, by its frequently repeated use, one iota of its medicinal influence; and wherever it has been had recourse to, in a proper manner, within the sphere of my personal knowledge, it has been equally successful. Towards counteracting the tendency to spasmodic asthma, (for destroying it where it is implanted in the habit, I consider as impossible.)—I have found nothing that has, in any important degree conducted but abstinence, together with a careful protection of the body against cold or damp, or any sudden vicissitudes of the weather.

"The stramonium has hitherto been considered as a noxious weed, difficult to eradicate where it has once taken root, but which I hope will be seen growing, in the course of another year in every garden in the empire. When I first enquired for it at an herb-shop, in Covent Garden; I obtained a large bundle for three pence; and I now learn with equal surprize and indignation, that it has lately been sold at the enormous rate of 2*l*s. per pound. I have experienced, in the course of a mingled life of business and amusement; many instances of baseness, and I have heard of many others. I never, however, met with such an imposition as I am about to notice. I had with infinite difficulty procured some seed of the stramonium, which I gave to the proprietor of a large nursery garden, in the immediate neighbourhood of Tavistock-square, and agreed with him to cultivate it; its produce exceeded 1000 fine plants, and it was almost weekly shown to me and my servants by the master who congratulated me upon the prospect of the crop. I remained perfectly satisfied that I should have an abundant supply, so much so, that I promised a portion of it to

half the poor suffering invalids that I heard of in London. This man having numerous applications for this plant actually sold the major part of it at 2s. per lb. and has refused to deliver me any of it, expecting (as no more can be procured until next year) to exact a still more extravagant price for it.

The seed of the stramonium is to be sown in the months of March and April, on light rich earth, exposed to the sun; it arrives at maturity in the latter end of August or beginning of September; and is called the THORN-APPLE. It grows spontaneously, is reckoned a common weed in many gardens, and has hitherto been universally thrown away. To prepare it for smoking it merely requires to be dried gradually, the mould brushed off, the roots cut into small pieces, and put into a common tobacco pipe; the smoke to be forced into the stomach by swallowing, without holding the nostrils or any other effort. I conclude, by the blessing of providence, to experience its excellent effects, even in an increased degree, so much so, that at this moment I am in the habit of riding backwards and forwards to a rural residence in Essex, a happiness which I had long ago lost sight of. I ought not to omit to state that the stalk proves equally efficacious with the root."

The stramonium, or thorn-apple, (*Datura*) generally grows on rubbish; it is about three feet high, the stem very much branched, and belongs to the class of Pentandria-monogynia.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

CHARTER OF CARRICKFERGUS.

(Continued from page, 116, vol. V.)

AND moreover, we will, and by these presents for us, our heirs,

and successors, of our special grace, certain knowledge and meer meon, we give unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the aforesaid town of Knockfergus, and to their successors, that they, and their successors, or the greater part of them, may have, make, and constitute from time to time, for ever, without any licence to be had or obtained from us, our heirs, or successors in that part, and behalf, at their own will and pleasure, within the same town one honest and discreet man, instructed in our laws, to be chosen and nominated in the form or manner hereafter expressed, which both shall be, and shall be called the recorder of the town of Carrickfergus, aforesaid, and we have therefore assigned, constituted, and made, and by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, do assign, nominate, and ordain, constitute, and make our well beloved Thomas Hibbotts, esq. who is sufficiently instructed in the laws now, and hereafter, to be recorder of the said town, to continue in the same office during his natural life, and we will, that both he, and every other the like recorder, so made and constituted, from time to time, be able and of power to exercise, and execute, within the said town or borough, and liberties of the same, all and every such thing, and things, as after any sort or manner, doth appertain or belong to the said office of recordership, to have, exercise, and occupy the said office of recorder, either by himself, or his sufficient deputy, or deputies, appointed or negotiated with the assent, or consent of the mayor of the said town, or the greater part of the aldermen of the said town for the time being until the end and term of his life, or years, or during the will of the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the foresaid town,

or their successors, or the greater part of them, (of whom we will, that the mayor of the said town for the time being, shall be one,) as to them shall seem more expedient, And that the said Thomas Hibbotts, before he proceed to the execution of the said office of recorder, shall take his corporal oath, by the holy evangelists of God, before the mayor and aldermen of the said town, faithfully to execute the said office of recordership of the said town, in all things touching the said office, as also the oath commonly called the oath of supremacy; and that after the death or removing of the said Thomas Hibbotts, it shall and may be lawful for the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the said town of Knockfergus, for the time being, or for the greater number of them, (of which we will that the mayor of the said town shall be one,) at any convenient time to elect, negotiate, and make one honest and discreet man well instructed in our laws, from time to time, and as often as it shall seem to them necessary, in the recordership of the same town, and that every such person or persons, from time to time, in the office of recordership of the said town, thus to be elected and negotiated, as aforesaid, and taking as well the oath of recordership of the said town, as also the oath commonly called the oath of supremacy, as aforesaid, from time to time, and every of them may, and shall be able, and of power to have, exercise, and enjoy, either by themselves, or by their sufficient deputies in form, aforesaid, nominated and appointed to have, occupy, and keep the said office until the end of their lives, or years, or during the will and pleasure of the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town or their successors, or the greater part of

them, of whom we will that the mayor of the same town, for the time being, shall be one.

Moreover we will, and by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, we grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the aforesaid town, and to their successors, that they, and their successors, or the greater part of them, (of whom we will that the mayor of the same town for the time being, shall be one,) from time to time, and as often as need shall require, that they may be able, and of power to make and appoint one honest and discreet man to be clerk of the Tholsell, called in English the town-clerk of the same town, to exercise all and every such things as to the said office of clerk doth belong or appertain, in as ample manner as any other clerk of the Tholsell in any city or town within our said realm of Ireland, doth or may execute, and that every such clerk so constituted, or to be constituted, shall take his corporal oath in that case, well and faithfully to execute the said office of town-clerk, as also the oath called the oath of supremacy before the mayor of the town of Carrickfergus, aforesaid, for the time being, and that from henceforward he may have and exercise the said office at the will and pleasure of the aforesaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town, or the greater part of them (of which we will that the mayor for the time being, to be one). And furthermore of the like special grace, certain knowledge, and mere mocon. we grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus, aforesaid, and to their successors, that the sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the aforesaid town for the time being, or the greater part of them, (of whom

we will that the mayor of said town for the time being, shall be one,) from time to time, for ever, hereafter may have power yearly, upon every monday next following the feast of the nativity of St. John the Baptist, without any licence had or obtained from us, our heirs or successors, in that behalf to elect, nominate, two of the most honest free burgesses of the foresaid town, to be sheriffs for the same town and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for one whole year from the feast of St. Michael the arch-angel inclusively.

And that such persons thus elected and nominated before they or either of them be admitted to execute these offices of sheriffs, shall take their corporal oaths upon the feast day of St. Michael, arch-angel, next following the said nomination or election, before the mayor and burgesses of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the time being, which then shall be present in the Tholsel or town-court of the same town, or in any other convenient place within the said town, and not elsewhere, rightly well and truly to execute the said office of sheriffs of the town and county of Knockfergus aforesaid, in all things touching the said offices, as also the foresaid commonalty, called the oath of supremacy; and that they, and every of them, after the taking of the aforesaid oaths, may be able and of power to execute the said office of sherifalty of the said town and county of Knockfergus, for one whole year from the feast of St. Michael, the arch-angel next following, and from thence until others be elected, and sworn to execute and exercise the said office. And that such sheriffs of the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors which shall be from time to time, may hold and be a-

ble and of power to hold their common courts within the county of the town of Knockfergus, or within the franchises, metts. limits, and bounds of the same town of Knockfergus, from month to month for ever, and that they have, enjoy, and exercise all and all manner such of the like powers, jurisdictions, authorities, liberties, and all things else whatsoever, belonging to the said office of sherifalty within the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and the precincts aforesaid, of the same as any other the sheriff or the sheriffs of our heirs and successors in any other county within our realm of Ireland, within our bailiwicks mayor ought to have, enjoy, and exercise; and that we, our heirs, and successors, for ever hereafter direct and send to be put in execution unto the sheriffs of the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the time being, all and all manner of writs, bills, precepts, warrants, summons, attachments, distringuass's, executions, and commandments of ours, or of our heirs or successors, or any summons, attachments, or distringuass's of our exchequer, or the exchequer of our heirs, or successors, or of any other the courts or the courts of our heirs or successors, which shall grow or rise out of any cause, matter or thing, or for any causes matters, or things within the foresaid town, or within the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or within the franchises of the same, or of any of them, and that no other sheriffs of our realm of Ireland, nor the bailiffs or servants of any other sheriffs of our realm of Ireland, save only our sheriffs and the sheriffs of our heirs, and successors of the foresaid county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their bailiffs, ministers, and servants hereafter, any manner of

way go within the said town, borough, or county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or within the metts, limits, bounds, permits, and franchises of the same or of any of them there to do, execute, and exercise any thing after any sort or manner, which to the office of a sheriff doth belong, or shall or may appertain.

Neither yet shall they or either of them, after any sort, be suffered to put him or themselves within the same, our sheriffs of our county of Antrim for the time being, to keep and hold his county courts, turnes, and other courts at our castle of Knockfergus aforesaid, and for the sending, imprisoning, and keeping of prisoners and malefactors in and to the jail to be built within the same town for the county of Antrim aforesaid, in all things touching the same offices as in above said only excepted, and that our sheriffs and the sheriffs of our heirs and successors of our county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid for the time being, and from time to time for ever may have and constitute, or may be able, and of power to have and constitute such officers, ministers, and servants, as also to have, enjoy, and exercise such and the like privileges and immunities within the said town and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, as any other our sheriffs or the sheriffs of our heirs and successors within our said realm of Ireland, have, or ought to have, within their bailiwicks in any county or counties, within our said realm of Ireland for ever. And furthermore of our abundant special grace, we have given and granted, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant to the said sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the county of the town of Knockfergus, and to their suc-

cessors, or either of them that they and their successors for ever may have the full return of all and every our writs, warrants, attachments, mandates, and precepts of our heirs and successors, as also all manner of summonses, attachments, and distringnases of our exchequer, or the exchequer of our heirs and successors, and of all other escheats whatsoever, and of all precepts, mandates, warrants, summonses, attachments, and of all our order whatsoever, of the justices, commissioners, officers of us, and our heirs and successors whatsoever, and the execution of them within the town and the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or within the franchises and liberties of the same, or any of them as well to the suit of us, our heirs and successors by us, our heirs and successors alone, or by us, our heirs and successors jointly, with any other person or persons, as to the suit of any other person whatsoever, to be prosecuted or sent before us, our heirs and successors, or before any other justices or commissioners, or the justices or commissioners of our heirs and successors to be executed or returned, so that no other sheriffs, bailiffs, or ministers of ours, or of our heirs and successors, after any manner, may go, come into the said town, or county of the said town or franchises or liberties of the same, to return or execute any such like writs, warrants, attachments, mandates, precepts, summonses, and distringnases, within the town and county of the foresaid town and county of the foresaid town with the franchises and liberties of the same, or within the permits thereof. And we further will, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, grant that the mayor of Knockfergus aforesaid for the time being, and his successors, may

ors of the same town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for ever hereafter, shall be escheators, master of the sayes and clerks of our markets, for us, our heirs and successors; and that every of them for the time being shall be escheators, masters of the says, and clerks of the markets, for us, our heirs, and successors, in the borough of the town and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and in the franchises and liberties of the same; and that they may have, enjoy, use, and execute all and all manner of powers, authorities, jurisdictions, and pre-eminences within the said borough town and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and the franchises thereof, which to the several offices of escheator, master of the sayes, and clerk of the market, doth appertain or belong, or with any other escheator, master of the sayes, or clerk of the market, of ours, or of our heirs or successors, within our kingdom of Ireland, may, or ought to have, enjoy, use, or execute, by virtue of their said several offices in such sort, as no escheator, master of the says, clerk of the market, of ours, or our heirs or successors, he suffered to enter, or put themselves, or put himself, after any sort or manner, to execute their several offices, or any of them, in the said borough or town, or in the county of the town aforesaid, or in the franchises and liberties thereof, unless it be through the defect of the mayor or his successors in the premises, and we therefore will, and firmly command, and enjoin, that every such mayor of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the time being, immediately after he hath taken upon him the office of mayor of the town aforesaid, shall take and receive before the constable of our said castle of Knockfergus for the time being, or in his absence, before the deputy-con-

stable of our said castle of Knockfergus, in the presence of the last mayor of the same town which was for the last year then past, respectively and as aforesaid all such and the like several oaths of the several offices of escheator, master of the sayes, and clerk of the market of ours, or our heirs, and successors, with any other our escheators, master of the sayes, and clerk of the market, of ours, or our heirs and successors, or any of them in any other place within our realm of Ireland, do take or receive, or ought to take or receive; and we further will, and by these presents of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, do grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Carrickfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that the said mayor of the aforesaid town of Knockfergus, and the sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the foresaid town, and their successors, for the time being, or the greater part of them, (of whom we will that the mayor of the foresaid town for the time being, shall be one), yearly for ever hereafter upon the foresaid Monday next after the feast of the nativity of St. John the baptist, or upon any other day when it shall seem most expedient unto them, without our licence, or the licence of our heirs and successors may be able to elect and nominate two of the more honest inhabitants of the same town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for one whole year from the feast of St. Michael, the arch-angel, then next following, to exercise, do, and execute all things, which to the office of coroners in the said town and county of the foresaid town doth appertain to be done, and that the said coroners and every of them so elected and nominated, shall take their corporal oaths before

the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the foresaid town, or before the greater part of them, of whom we will that the mayor of the foresaid town for the time being, shall be one,) within the town, and county of the foresaid town, within the franchises and liberties of the same, and not elsewhere, respectively, well, and faithfully to execute, do, and exercise their said offices; and that after taking of the said oath, every such person which to the office of coroner, shall be elected and sworn as aforesaid, from time to time shall be coroners of the town and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and that no other coroner, or any other coroners of ours, our heirs or successors, shall after any manner or sort come in, or any of them may put themselves in to do any thing within the said town and county of the said town, which to the offices of coroners, doth now or hereafter shall belong, or appertain; and if it shall happen the said sheriffs of the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or the coroners of the county aforesaid, within one year after they are elected, made, and sworn to the offices of sheriffs and coroners of the town and county aforesaid, as aforesaid, or during the time they shall remain in the said offices, that they or any of them shall die, or for any good and sufficient cause, they shall be removed from their said offices of sheriffs and coroners of the town or county of the town aforesaid, from any one or either of them, which sheriffs, not bearing or carrying themselves well in the said offices, or any one of them for any good or sufficient cause, we will that they shall be removable by the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, for the time being, or by the greater number of them (of whom we will

that the mayor of the same town for the time being, shall be one,) then, and so often any such occasion shall fall or happen, it shall, and may be lawful for the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, for the time being, or for the greater part of them, (of whom, &c.) without our licence, or the licence of our heirs and successors in that behalf had or obtained within 15 days next after any such sheriffs, or either of them or any such coroners, or either of them shall die, or be removed out of their offices aforesaid in the tholsel and court-house of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or in any other convenient place within the foresaid town, or within the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, to assemble themselves, and to choose, and make one or more as the case shall require of the free burgesses of the said town, in the place or places of the said sheriffs or coroners, or in the place of the said sheriffs and coroners so dying, or from his or their place or offices removed, and that every such person thus elected and made, or to be elected and made, (after that they have respectively taken and reserved the several oaths of their officers of sheriffs and coroners of the foresaid town and county of the town of Knockfergus, in manner and form aforesaid, they, and every of them, may respectively have and exercise the said several offices of sheriffs and coroners within the said town, and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the residue of the same year, and until any one or other of the said burgesses of the said town, to such offices of sheriffs and coroners of the said town and county of the same, shall be elected and sworn respectively as aforesaid.

And furthermore, we have grant

ed, and by these presents, for us our heirs and successors, do grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town of Knockfergus, and their successors, that the mayor of said town for the time being, and his successors for the time being, and deputies and substitutes of them for the time being, and the recorder of the same town for the time being, and his successors recorders of the same town for and during the several times wherein they shall be, and respectively continue in the foresaid offices, that presently after they shall take or receive respectively the foresaid oath, commonly called the oath of supremacy, as also their oaths respectively, well and truly for executing their said offices of mayor, and recorder of the said town in form aforesaid, in these presents above specified, that they are justices and keepers of the peace, and that every one of them, as a justice and keeper of our peace, and the peace of our heirs and successors within and through the foresaid town of Knockfergus, and through the whole county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and through and within the franchises, limits, and liberties of the same town; and that they, and every of them, during the several times in which they shall respectively be, or remain in their several offices, shall have full power and authority there for keeping and conserving our peace, and the peace of our heirs and successors, as also for causing orders and statutes made, or to be made, for the good of our peace, or the peace of our heirs and successors, and for the quiet rule and governing of our people, and of the people of our heirs and successors, in all and singular their articles within the whole town and county aforesaid, according to the sort, form, and orders of the fore-

said statutes of keeping and causing the peace to be kept, and to cause all those to be punished according to the law of the land, which did, do, or have done any thing against the form and orders of the statutes, and to cause all those to appear before them, which have threatened any of our people, or the people of our heirs and successors, in their bodies, or in burning of their houses and corn, and to cause them to find sufficient securities of the peace of their good bearing towards us and our people, and the people of our heirs and successors, and if they shall refuse to find such security, then to commit them to our prison within the foresaid town of Knockfergus, and within the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, until such time as he or they shall find such and the like security, and there to cause them to be safely kept, and that the said mayor and recorder of the same town and all other mayors, and recorders of the same town, for the time being, and every of them shall be our justice and justices, and the justice and justices of our heirs and successors, for keeping the peace within the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and within the franchises and suburbs of the said town, and in and throughout the whole county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, as well by land as sea, and fresh waters, and also that the now mayor and recorder of the aforesaid town, and all other and singular, the other mayors and recorders of the same town for the time being, may have power and authority by the oath of honest and lawful men of the foresaid town of Carrickfergus, or franchises of the same, or of the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, to enquire of all manner of felonies, trespasses or transgressions, riots, routs, unlawful meetings or assemblies, evil

conspiracies, concealments, and all other misprisons whatsoever, perpetrated or done within the foresaid town, and within the franchises and suburbs of the same, and within the county of the town aforesaid; and of all forceable entries heretofore made, or to be made by strong hand into any lands or tenements within the foresaid town, or within the franchises and suburbs of the same, and within the county of the town aforesaid, or in any of them, as also of peaceable entries made or to be made into such lands within the said town franchises, and suburbs and county of the same town, and have been by force, power, and strong hand held, or hereafter to be held, or made; as also to enquire of all manner of statutes, articles, and ordinances, made, or to be made, for and concerning labourers, vagabonds, carpenters, artificers, tanners, curriers, barbers, bakers, shoemakers, taylor, tylers, ostlers, weights, measures, victuals, and for and concerning all other causes, and matters, which ought to be enquired of before any justices, or keepers of the peace, in any where else within our realm of Ireland, the same also to be enquired within the town and county of the foresaid town; and then after they shall have power and authority for the executing and doing of all things which to the office of keepers or justices of the peace in any where else within our realm of Ireland doth belong or appertain; and therefore we do, for us our heirs and successors, command the mayor and recorder of the same town of Knockfergus aforesaid for the time being, and their successors, that they diligently intend, do, and execute all and singular those things in manner aforesaid; and we further command, for us, our heirs, and successors, the sheriffs of the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, for the

time being, that they submit, obey, answer, and attend the mayor and recorder of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, and every of them in the execution of the premises, as it cometh, and we further will, for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, that no other our justices, or the justices of our heirs and successors, besides our justices, and the justices of our heirs and successors, going in circuit to hold assizes, or assigned, or to be assigned, to enquire, hear, and determine, by virtue of any our trespasses or the trespasses of our heirs and successors, to them directed, or to be directed, shall go within the foresaid town or the county of the foresaid town, or the limits or precincts thereof, neither yet shall they after any sort put themselves within the same.

And further of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we give, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, all and singular, these franchises, privileges, liberties, hereunderwritten, viz.—that they, and their successors for ever, may have a merchant guild within the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and that all the merchants of the foresaid town, which now are, or for ever shall be, that they shall be one body politic incorporate by themselves, in matter, name and deed, by the name of two masters or fellows of the guild merchants of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and that one of said masters shall and may be called the chief or principal of the guild of merchants, and that the other of the said masters shall be called the second master of the said guild; and

that the said masters and fellows of the foresaid guild of merchants, or as many of them as shall be living, or alive, or the greater part of them, upon Monday next after the feast of St. Michael the arch-angel next ensuing the date of these presents, and so upon every other monday next following after the feast of St. Michael the arch angel every other year for ever, may be able to cause two of the more honest and discreet and fit merchants of the foresaid guild, to be masters of the guild of the merchants aforesaid, from one whole year to continue from the foresaid Monday next and immediately following the feast of St. Michael the arch angel aforesaid, and that may be able to create and constitute them, being so chosen masters of the guild of merchants aforesaid, from one year from thence next following, and as often as it shall happen that the foresaid two masters of the guild of merchants aforesaid, or either of them for the time being, before the end of the year after any such their election, to die from his or their offices of the masters of the guild, for any cause by resignation to be deprived or removed, then we will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the foresaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the foresaid town, and to their successors, that the said fellows or brethren of the said guild of merchants, and their successors, or the greater part

of them, within eight days next and immediately following the death of any masters, or either of them, or after the removing or departing of any such masters, or either of them, to be able and of power to appoint and choose one other, or two others, as necessity shall require, of the same fellows or brethren of the guild of merchants, to be master or masters of the said guild of merchants for the residue of the said year, and that all and every such masters aforesaid, and their successors, from time to time may be able to make, constitute, establish, create or grant all and all manner of rules, statutes, laws, arts, and ordinances, for the common profit of the same guild, and for the better ruling and governing of the same, so often as it shall seem convenient or needful unto them, and for the executing the said statutes, rules, laws, arts, and ordinances, to impose reasonable fines and amercements upon all and every person and persons, which shall presume to contravene either the said statutes, or either of them, and to take and convert all and every such fines and amercements to their own proper use, without rendering any account to us, our heirs, or successors for the same, so as such rules, constitutions, laws, and ordinances, be not contrary or repugnant to our laws, customs and statutes of our realm of Ireland.

(To be continued.)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF ANDREW MARVELL, MEMBER FOR KINGSTON UPON HULL, IN SEVERAL PARLIAMENTS, DRAWN UP FROM ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.

Extracted from an account published in the London Monthly Magazine.

IT is hoped that the sound patriotism of the subject of this memoir, and his history being little

known, will plead our excuse for borrowing from a contemporary print. In the present day, so remarkable for wide spreading profligacy and corruption, and in which instances of unbending integrity are so rare, it may be useful to hold up such inflexible characters to view, that if they do not stimulate, they may shame the present age.

“ But whether Fate, or Art, untwin’d his thread,
Remains in doubt. Fame’s lasting register,
Shall leave his name enroll’d as great as those,
Who, at Philippi, for their country fell.”

The name of this accomplished man, and incorruptible citizen, still stands high in the estimation of the nation, and will continue to be respected, while public virtue can interest the feelings, or private gratitude actuate the heart, of an Englishman. Few persons, however, are acquainted either with his merits, or his history. It is not the fashion of the present day to make either curious, or elaborate enquiries respecting the ornaments of an age, that has passed away; and the biographical dictionaries of a former period are filled with very inaccurate accounts of the subject of the present memoir. Indeed, his life, and works are included, and, it might be fairly added, entombed, in three huge quarto volumes; so that no one but a literary pioneer would be tempted to dig into such a mass, for the entertainment and instruction, either of himself, or others. Respect, however, for the memory of this great man, has produced the following attempt, to convey an idea both of his character and his writings.

Andrew Marvell was born at Kingston-upon-Hull, November 15, 1620. His father, the Rev. Andrew Marvell, born in Cambridgeshire, completed his studies at Emanuel

College, Cambridge, where he obtained the degree of master of arts, in 1603. He was afterwards elected master of the public grammar school, in Kingston-upon-Hull, and became lecturer of trinity church, in 1624: he is denominated “the facetious calvinistical minister,” by Echard. At the time of the great plague,* he displayed great firmness of mind, &c. notwithstanding the burial-service had been long disused, he not only ventured to read it, on the death of Mr. Ramsden, the mayor, but also preached an excellent funeral sermon at the same time.

In the year 1640, an unhappy event put an end to his days, he having been drowned in the Humber, while crossing in a small boat to Barrow, in Lincolnshire, with a young couple, who were going to be married. A few minutes anterior to this fatal event, as if conscious of his danger, he called out to some of his friends who were walking upon the quay, in the following whimsical manner: “Ho! ho! for heaven, ay, ho!” and immediately threw his gold-headed cane on shore, which he recommended to be delivered to his son.

That son after having reaped the benefit of his instructions, was then resident at the university of Cambridge, whither he had been sent at the age of fifteen; having been admitted a student at Trinity college, in 1635. He had already begun to distinguish himself, by the early developement of his talents, when he was inveigled to London, by the Jesuits, who were ambitious of making such a proselyte.—The parent, whose sudden and melancholy catastrophe has been just mentioned, followed him thither, a short time anterior to his unhappy fate, and finding his son, by acci-

dent, in a bookseller's-shop, prevailed upon him to return to his studies.

Whether he now repaired to Hull, to take possession of the property left him by his father, is not known; but it is certain, that soon after, he and four other students having absented themselves from their exercises, it was resolved on the 24th of September, 1641, "to refuse them the benefits of the college." The following is the entry: "It is agreed by the master and seniors, that Mr. Carter, Dominus Wakefield, Dominus Marvell, Dominus Waterhouse, and Dominus Mage, in regard that some of these are reported to be married, and the others look not after their *dayes nor acts*, shall receive no more benefit from the college, and shall be out of their places, unless they shew just cause to the college, for the contrary, in three months."

Whether Mr. Marvell obeyed this summons, does not now appear; but certain it is, that the charge does great credit to the vigilance of those who presided over this institution, and we have only to lament, that in all probability the same degree of strictness is not practised at the present day. Certain it is, that he was afterwards reproached by one of his antagonists, for having been *expelled*; but it is at the same time clear, not only from the register, but the evidence of the late Dr. Michael Lort, who searched the books, that no graver cause was adduced against him than negligence.

Having left Cambridge, about the year 1642, when he was twenty-two years of age, Andrew Marvell soon after commenced his travels through Holland, France, and Italy. In the last of these countries, he is supposed to have seen, and to have cultivated the friendship of the illustrious Milton, during their residence

at Rome. Of his adventures nothing has been transmitted; unless his attack on Lancelot Joseph de Maniban, an Abbot, of a whimsical character, then residing at Paris; to whom he addressed a satirical epistle, with the following superscription:

Illustrissimo Virq Dominio Lanceloto Josepho de Maniban, Grammatomanti." Having pretended to discover the characters of persons whom he had never seen, and even to prognosticate their good or ill fortune, from a mere view of their hand writing; these ridiculous pretensions very justly laid him open to the chastisement of a pen well versed in the Latin language, and to the ridicule of a man who had long detested imposture of every kind.

From this time until 1653, during the long interval of twelve years, a *hiatus* unhappily takes place in this memoir. Cromwell, who was now protector, first employed the subject of it, as private tutor to Mr. Dutton, his nephew; and he afterwards became one of the secretaries to that celebrated statesman and general.

"I never had any, not the remotest relation to public matters," says he, in the second part of the *Rehearsal* transposed, "nor correspondence with the persons then predominant, till the year 1657, when indeed, I entered into an employment, for which I was not altogether improper, and which I considered to be the most innocent and inoffensive towards his Majesty's affairs, of any in that usurped government, to which all men were then exposed."

As the protector died at Whitehall, September 3d, 1658, about a year after his preferment, Mr. Marvell could not have obtained much wealth from an employment as a Latin secretary, which, like, all others at that period, was probably far from being profitable. Indeed,

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the honour of having Milton for his coadjutor, was perhaps the most agreeable circumstance annexed to the employment.

In the course of the same year, however, he was elected one of the burgesses, then returned to serve in parliament, for the borough of Kingston-upon-Hull. From that moment he considered it as a bounden duty, to transmit an account of all the proceedings in the house of Commons to his constituents; but the collection hitherto published, does not commence earlier than November 17th, 1660.

"From this period," says Captain Edward Thompson, the compiler of the grand 4to edition, published in 1776, "Mr. Marvell comes forward in his patriot and parliamentary character, and with more dignity, honour, sense, genius, fortitude, virtue, and religion, than ever mixed up in one man, ancient or modern. There is not an action of his life that deserves the blot of censure; the part he took, was most honourable to himself, and useful to his country; and though virtue was ever put to the blush by flattery, yet he maintained his sincerity unswayed, when truth, and chastity, were crimes in the lewd circle of Charles' syren court; where in poverty he held up the greatness of his soul, in spite of the cold disadvantages of a narrow fortune, and the artful lures and temptations of the most agreeable devils, possessed of more than the golden apples. Nor were spirits inactive to reduce such virtues, which might have been made so useful to the prostituted purposes of that prostituted court.

"—— Tempt not, he said, and stood;

"But Satan, smitten with amazement fell!"

In the first parliament, which met before the restoration, (April 25, 1660) Mr. Marvell was a constant at-

tendant. In the course of his correspondence, he exhibits a determined enmity to the keeping up of a standing army, which he wishes to be speedily exchanged for a militia.

"I doubt not, ere we rise," says he, in a letter to his constituents, "to see the whole army disbanded; and according to the act, hope to see your town once more ungarrisoned; in which I should be glad, and happy to be instrumental to the uttermost; for I cannot but remember, though then a child, those blessed days, when the youth of your town were trained for your militia; and did, methought, become their arms much better than any soldiers that I have seen there since."

Soon after this he evinced his jealousy of "that many-headed monster, the *Excise*;" and we find him nearly at the same time, thanking his constituents for a present of a cask of ale, the quantity of which," he observed, "was so great, that it might make sober men forgetful."

In 1662, Mr. Marvell appears to have repaired to Holland, on which occasion, Lord Bellasis, who was high steward of Hull, and deputy governor, under the Duke of Monmouth, employed Sir Robert Hildyard to notify this circumstance to his constituents, with a view of inducing them to proceed to a new election. On this a letter was despatched to their member, ordering him peremptorily to return, which requisition he accordingly complied with a short time after.

A few months posterior to this, with the consent of his constituents, he accompanied his friend, Lord Carlisle, who had been appointed ambassador extraordinary to Muscovy, Sweden, and Denmark, in the capacity of secretary, and remained abroad near two years. On his return, we find him attending the

parliament at Oxford; and waiting on the Duke of Monmouth, with a congratulatory letter, and a present of gold, from the corporation. On this occasion, the latter, after paying many compliments to Mr. M. endeavoured to prevail on him, to accept of the "six broad pieces," which he, however, refused, with his usual disinterestedness.

After the prorogation of parliament, in November, 1675, the subject of this memoir, demands instructions on the part of his constituents. "I desire," says he, "that you will consider, whether there be any thing that particularly relates to the state of your town; and I shall strive to promote it, to the best of my duty; and in the more general concerns of the nation, shall maintain the same incorrupt mind, and clear conscience, far from faction, or any self-ends, which by the grace of God, I have hitherto preserved." He was so attentive to his political communications, that each letter contained a minute narrative of parliamentary business. Such was his diligence too, that he says, "he sits down to write at six in the evening, though he had not eat since the day before at noon; and that it had become habitual to him, to write to them every post, during the sitting of parliament."

"It was not his duty there," says his biographer, "which wholly engrossed his mind: for the numberless pieces of prose and verse, which he threw out, were of excellent use, and had great effect upon the people's minds; and must have taken a deal of time in the composition.—I cannot find, by any writings, that he ever spoke in the house; the journals thereof, make no mention of any speech of his; but by his own account, he always made notes of what passed; and by his indefatigable conduct otherwise, he ob-

tained a great ascendancy over the minds of the members. Though the power of the court had not influence over his virtue, yet the good sense of Prince Rupert was conspicuous, in making him his friend; for when Mr. Marvell's name became the hatred of that party, which he ever attacked with unremitting keen satire, and it became dangerous for him to appear abroad, Prince Rupert would be led by his good understanding, privately to the apartments of Mr. Marvell: so, whenever his Royal Highness voted on the side of Mr. Marvell, which he often did, it was the observation of the adverse folks, "that he had been with his tutor."

"The severe tracts, which he was continually publishing against the state, and popery, and the inflammatory literary fight which he had with Parker, and others, often made his life in danger; but no bribes, no offers of fortune, or situation, though so very contrary to his private interest, could make him swerve from the virtuous path he had first set out upon, and in which he continued to walk invariably to the last. A man of such excellent parts, and facetious converse, could not be unknown to Charles II. who loved the company of wits so much, that he would suffer the severest jokes, rather than not enjoy them. Mr. Marvell had been honoured with an evening's entertainment by his majesty, who was so charmed with the ease of his manners, the soundness of his judgement, and the nimbleness of his wit, that the following morning, to shew him his regard, he sent the Lord Treasurer, Danby, to wait upon him, with a particular message from himself.

"His lordship, with some difficulty, found his elevated retreat, which was in a second floor, in a

court in the strand. Lord Danby from the darkness of the staircase, and the narrowness thereof, abruptly burst open the door, and suddenly entered the room, wherein he found Mr. Marvell writing. Astonished at the sight of so noble and so unexpected a visitor, he asked his lordship with a smile, if he had not mistook his way. "No," replied my lord, with a bow, not since I have found Mr. Marvell; continuing, that he came with a message from the king; who wished to do him some signal service, to testify his high opinion of his merits. He replied, with his usual pleasantry, that kings had it not in their power to serve him; he had no void left aching in his breast: but become more serious, he assured his lordship, that he was highly sensible of this mark, of his majesty's affection; but he knew too well the nature of courts, to accept of favours, which were expected to bind a man in the chains of their interest, which his spirit of freedom and independence would not suffer him to embrace. To take a place at the hands of his majesty, would be proving him guilty of the first sin; ingratitude if he voted against him; and if he went in the smooth stream of his interest, it might be doing injustice to his country, and his conscience: he therefore begged that his majesty would allow him to enjoy a state of liberty, and to esteem him more his faithful and dutiful subject, and more in the true interest of his welfare, by the refusal of his munificence, than if he had embraced his royal bounty.* These royal offers proving vain, Lord Danby began to assure him, that the king had ordered him a thousand guineas, which he hoped he would be pleased to receive, till he would bring his mind to accept something better, and more durable. At this Mr. Marvell renewed his usual

smile, and said, 'Surely, my good lord, you do not mean to treat me ludicrously, by these munificent offers; which seem to interpret a poverty on my part. Pray, my lord treasurer, do these apartments wear in the least the air of need? And as for my living, that is plentiful and good, which you shall have from the mouth of the servant:—

* Pray what had I to dinner yesterday? "A shoulder of mutton, sir." "And what do you allow me to-day?" "The remainder hashed."

'And to-morrow, my lord Danby, I shall have the sweet blade-bone broiled; and when your lordship makes honourable mention of my cook and my diet, I am sure his majesty will be too tender in future to attempt to bribe a man with golden apples, who lives so well on the viands of his native country!'

The lord treasurer, unable to withstand this, withdrew with smiles; and Mr. Marvell, sent to his bookseller for the loan of one guinea—No Roman virtue ever surpassed this temperance; nor can gold bribe any man that is not bribed with luxury; and with Doctor Samuel Johnson,* allow me to repeat these good words, which the temptation of a pension would not suffer him to adopt: "No man, whose appetites are his masters, can perform the duties of his nature with strictness and regularity; he that would be superior to internal influence, must first become superior to his own passions."

That such a man should have enemies is not to be wondered at by those who know the world; and that they should be bitter, cruel, and inveterate, will not surprise any one, who is acquainted with the history of that profligate and flagitious reign, during which he flourished.

* The Idler.

ished. Mr. Marvell was fond of residing at Highgate, and this circumstance appears to have put his life in jeopardy more than once; or he was frequently threatened with murder, and even way-laid. Sir John Coventry's nose had been slit, for his daring to express his mind with freedom; and a still worse fate appears to have been reserved for the subject of this memoir, who, fired at the indignity committed against a member of parliament, had formerly lampooned the court on that very occasion, in some severe satirical verses, of which the following is the first stanza:

"I sing a rueful ditty,
Of a wound that long will smart—a ;
And given (more is the pity)
In the realms of *Magna Charta*;
Youth, youth, thou hadst been better slain
by thy foes,
Than live to be hang'd for a nothing—a
nose !"

Mr. Marvell, however, was not a man of that stamp, to be terrified by threats, or even by violence. He was accustomed to remark, that he was more afraid of killing, than of being killed; and that he was not so much in love with life, as to be unprepared for death. In a letter to a friend, in which he mentions "the insuperable hatred of his foes, and their designs of murdering him, he makes use of the following strong expressions, which are here quoted in the original, being a language in which he excelled, and in which he delighted to correspond.

"Præterea magis occidere metuo quam occidi: non quod vitam tanti estimem, sed ne imparatus moriar."

As he was distinguished for his scorn of corruption, on one hand, so, on the other, he could never be provoked to revenge by any personal resentment. His integrity, even amidst distress, has been sufficiently evinced by an anecdote, that would do honour to any age, or country;

while it is evident from the whole tenour of his correspondence, that his dispute with his colleague, Colonel Anthony Gilby, never once betrayed him into any passionate invective or peevish expression. He was, at the same time, a sworn foe to flattery, and very cautious, as well as very circumspect, in regard to his friendships. His enmities were all generous, for they were of a public nature. He most cordially hated and detested those who basely crouched at the feet of power, or were the zealots of arbitrary government. Yet even here, the native magnanimity of his disposition was evident; for although he severely lashed the vices, both public and private, of the lascivious sovereign, who then bore sway; yet he could generously praise any of his actions which were commendable.

His friendship for, and intimacy with, Milton, would alone have served to endear him to a nation, which still looks up, with mingled sentiments of love and admiration, to that great ornament of English literature. Nor was he unmindful of his posthumous reputation; indeed, he assisted in rescuing the poem of "*Paradise Lost*," the copy-right of which had been purchased for fifteen pounds, from unmerited obscurity; for it was he and Dr. Barrow, by their two complimentary poems, in English and Latin, who first unveiled its beauties to the undiscerning eyes of a heedless public, immersed, after the example of the court, in every species of folly and debauchery.

The member for Hull appears to have been particularly severe on several of the dignitaries of the Anglican church at that day, particularly Laud, Juxon, and Wren; and when it is considered, the part acted by some of these, and the mischief occasioned by their councils, no

censure whatever can attach to him on that account. The rupture made by them between the Scotch and Charles I. was termed the *Bellum Episcopale*; and he thus expresses himself, on that subject :

"The friendly loadstone has not more combin'd,

Than bishops cramp'd the commerce of mankind :

Had it not been for such a byass strong,
Two nations had not miss'd their mark so long :

One king, one faith, one language and one isle,

English and Scotch—'tis all but cross and pile."

The following is a brief account and analysis of the works of this celebrated man. His letters to his constituents, are two hundred and fifty-six in number. They commence, November, 17, 1660; and end, June 6, 1678. The following is the address prefixed to the first : "To the Right Worshipful William Ramsden, Mayor : and the Aldermen, his brethren, of Kingston-upon-Hull ;" and it begins with, "Gentlemen, my worthy friends." The various proceedings in parliament, form the subject of this author's correspondence ; and as the whole appears to have been written during the evenings of the respective debates, while the subject continued to make a strong impression on Mr. Marvell's mind, they could not fail to prove interesting, more especially at a period, when the proceedings of the house were not given, either with the copiousness, or accuracy, that at present distinguish them.

The following extract, dated "London, May 25, 1663," will perhaps gratify the curiosity of some readers.

"Yesterday, indeed, was very busy with us, upon the commitment of the bill for buying and selling of offices. The committee, after long debate, was ordered to continue the retrospect to all that had been sold,

since June 29, 1660. The house seems to have this business much at heart. We sat, which is unusual with us, till six at night ; ordering also, at last, a clause to be entered against buying and selling of honour. A committee is also inspecting all illegal patents, and grievances to the subject."

On November 23, 1667, he writes as follows :

"Three or four days of this week have been taken up in examining in our house, a matter of bribery to some of our members ; when in the former session, after the prohibition of all French commodities our house was prevailed upon, nevertheless, to petition the king to suffer a great quantity of French wines to be landed, upon pretence that the persons concerned had given orders for those wines before the prohibition.

"The greatest fault herein hath been fixt upon Mr. John Ashburnham, he who belonged to the old king. The house yesterday voted, that he, having received five hundred pounds of the French merchants, had committed an offence to the dishonour of this house, and contrary to his duty as a member thereof ; and afterwards they voted, that he be excluded the house ; and a writ be issued for electing a new member in his place."

The following passage of a letter, dated, April 9, 1670, is curious on more than one account.

"The lords have, as we hear, thrown out that part of our bill for shipping, wherein we provided against men of war trading in merchandize : truly, in an ill season, when so many merchants complain, and the Turks take prizes in our channel."

The controversial writings of our author are voluminous ; and he is allowed by all his contemporaries to

have exhibited great talents and dexterity. Bishop Burnet, with a certain degree of quaintness, terms him, 'the liveliest droll of the age, who wrote in a burlesque strain, but with a peculiar and entertaining a conduct, that from the king down to the tradesman, his books were read with great pleasure.' Dean Swift, in the tale of a Tub, pays a high compliment to him, in respect to his literary contest with Dr. Parker; for after mentioning the short-lived reputation of the common answerers of books, he adds, "There is indeed an exception when any great genius thinks it worth his while to expose a foolish piece; some still read Marvell's answer to Parker with pleasure, though the book it answers be sunk long ago."

The work here alluded to is the "Rehearsal Transposed;" and while the controversy was at its height, his antagonist, who was then in the family of the Bishop of London, meeting Mr. Marvell in the street, attempted to shove him from the wall; on which the latter placed his foot so as to lay the former sprawling in the dirt: at the same time exclaiming, "Lie there for a son of a whore!" The prelate just alluded to, took up this matter with a high hand; but an interview having taken place, and our author being reproached by his lordship for the opprobrious language with which he had greeted his chaplain, Mr. M. justified himself, by producing a passage of the Doctor's last book; in which he says, "He is a true son of his mother, the church of England."—"But what of that?" replied the Bishop. "Read a little further on," rejoined the member for Hull, "and you will find as follows:—'The church of England has spurned two bastards; the Presbyterians, and the congregationalists:—*ergo*, my lord,"

adds he, "he himself expressly declares that he is the son of a whore."

"You are very witty, indeed, Mr. Marvell," says the right reverend divine; "but let me intreat you in future time to show more reverence to the cloth."*

The next work which we shall mention was published just before the author's death; and if we are to give full credit to the hints of one of his biographers, may possibly have hastened that event. It is entitled, "An account of the growth of Popery, and Arbitrary Government in England: more particularly from the long prorogation of November, 1675, ending the 15th of February, 1676, until the last meeting of parliament, the 16th of July, 1677." Throughout the whole of this publication he commends the original constitution of the government, and considers popery as synonymous with arbitrary power.† He accord-

* This story may be taken as a specimen of the coarse wit of that age, but which more correct manners of a polished period show in its proper deformity. In point of good manners, at least this age is improved, and on this account, we are intitled to credit.—(B. M. M.)

† It is requested, that no one will think that because we insert from the original account strong expressions, that therefore, we sanction illiberal aspersions against our catholic brethren. The age of Charles II. was a period in which the various sects indulged in a raucous manner of expression against each other, and in many cases their dissensions arose more from political than theological causes, for in that day the discovery does not appear to have been generally made, on any side, that a variety of opinions on the subject of religion, does not necessarily weaken a state, or that professors of a different faith may not live together as fellow citizens in the greatest harmony, while all on the immutable principle of justice are entitled to equal rights. In the days of the latter Charles and James, the catholics and presbyterians were accidentally on op-

ingly is at great pains to contrast the blessings of a protestant administration with the miseries of what he terms a "papal" cabinet. The Dutch war is attributed entirely to the corruption of the court; and it is asserted, that the Catholics and French were the leaders of the English councils at that period.

Although this work appeared full ten years anterior to the revolution, and during the worst part of the reign of Charles II. yet it abounds with high and exalted notions relative to liberty. Mr. Marvell asserts, that the king and subject are bound together by reciprocal obligations; and that the former ceases to be a legitimate sovereign, the moment he ceases to be bound by them.

The king and his ministers were so much offended at this production, that an advertisement appeared soon after in the Gazette, to the following effect:

"Whereas there have been lately printed and published several seditious and scandalous libels against the proceedings of both houses of parliament, and other his majesty's courts of justice, to the dishonour of his majesty's government, and the hazard of the public peace: these are to give notice, that whoever shall discover unto one of the secretaries of state, the printer, publisher, author, or hander to the press, of any of the said libels, so that evidence may be made thereof to a jury, without mentioning the informer; especially one libel, entitled, "An account of the Growth of Popery, &c." and another, "A Seasonable Argument to all the Grand

posite political sides, the one espoused the side of power, and the other of liberty; but in the present day, all those grounds of distinction should be obliterated by a liberal removal of obstructions and a common participation of equal privileges.—(B. M. M.)

Juries, &c." the discoverer shall be rewarded as follows: he shall have 50*l.* for such discovery as afore-said of the printer, or the publisher of it from the press; and for the hander of it to the press, 100*l.* &c."

According to Captain Thompson, this last production nobly declares his daring fortitude and patriotic virtue; and though the court was so incensed against its author, yet it hath established his veracity and reputation. But, alas! he did not live to see the good effects of his publication, which in its manner was clear to his penetration, and which, Oldmixon says, "was as full of truth as the addresses published afterwards in his majesty's gazettes, were full of falsehoods."

The other work mentioned at the same time in the gazette, and of which Mr. M. was also the author, is entitled, "A Seasonable Argument to persuade all the Grand Juries in England to petition for a new parliament: or, a List of the principal Labourers in the great Design of Popery and Arbitrary power, who have betrayed their Country to the Conspirators, and bargained with them to maintain a standing Army, under the Command of the bigotted popish D——; who, by the Assistance of the L. L.'s Scotch Army, the Forces in Ireland, and those in France, hopes to bring all back to Rome."

This "Seasonable Argument" merely consists of a list of the members who composed what was termed the pensioned parliament of Charles the II. The following is a short specimen:

"BEDFORD.

"Sir Humphry Winch, bart. hath from the Court 500*l.* per an. salary; and was of the Council of Trade for Plantations."

"BERKSHIRE.

"Windsor.—Sir Thomas Higgon,

bat. hath a pension of 500*l.* per an. and hath had 4000*l.* in giftes; married to the Earl of Bathe's sister."

"Sir Francis Winnington, knt. solicitor-general to the king; which place is worth 1500*l.* per an."

"*Reading.*—Sir Thomas Doleman, bart. 200*l.* per annum pension; and was assisted by the court in the cheating will, whereby he got Quarles his estate, valued at 1500*l.* now clerk of the council, which is worth 500*l.* per an. and is promised to be Secretary of State," &c. &c.

In 1676 appeared, "Mr. Smirke; or, the Divine in Mode: being certain Annotations upon the Animadversions on the Naked Truth: together with a short Historical Essay, concerning General councils, Creeds, and Impositions in matters of Religion. By Andreas Rivetus, junior, Anagr. Res Nuda Veritas." The "Mr. Smirke" here alluded to, appears to have been Dr. Francis Turner, master of St. John's college, Cambridge, who replied to a discourse, by Herbert Crofts, bishop of Hereford, called "The Naked Truth; or the True State of the Primitive Church: by an Humble Moderator." The violence of the former having aroused the indignation of the member for Hull, he attacked him in this pamphlet, and that with such success, that Mr. M. received a letter from the prelate, stating, "that he had the zealous prayers and hearty service of the author of the *Naked Truth*."

To this last publication, Mr. M. added the Historical Essay, touching general councils, creeds, and impositions in religion, for the express purpose of showing the absurdity of imposing new articles of faith.

The last prose work we shall here mention, was called, "A Seasonable Question, and an useful Answer, between a parliament-man, in Corn-wall, and a Benchor of the Temple;

by A. M. 1676." The object of this is to enquire, whether the prorogation of parliament for fifteen months did not amount to a dissolution; it being concluded, that his Majesty had no power by the law to prorogue a parliament for more than a year. In the "Benchor's Answer," it is stated, that by the 4th of Edw. III. cap. 14, and 36th of Edw. III. cap. 10, it is enacted, that "a parliament shall be holden every year, as another time was ordained." This authority, we are told, was reinforced by that "notable act of the 16th of the late king (Charles I.) which provided effectually for the summoning and electing a parliament every three years, without the king's concurrent assent, if he neglected two years together to summon a parliament, according to those statutes of Edward III." &c. It is the opinion of this lawyer, that if the king could prorogue for fifteen months, "he may lawfully prorogue you for forty years if he please, and may refuse for ever to hold a parliament."

The poems of Mr. Marvell are numerous, and many of them often abound with wit, although there are some coarse and indelicate expressions, which designate the reign in which they were written, and fully justify the following couplet:

"Unhappy Dryden!—in all Charles' days,
Roscommon only boasts unspotted bays."

Of his satires, that written upon Sir Robert Viner's setting up an equestrian statue of the king, (Charles II.) in Wool-church-market, is one of the most severe, and begins thus:

"As citties that to the fierce conqueror
yield,
Do at their own charges their cittadels
build;
So Sir Robert advanc'd the King's statue,
In token
Of bankers defeated—and Lombard-street
broken."

F f

The paraphrases of David's hymn on Gratitude, which Mr. Addison has printed in the four hundred and fifty-third number of the *Spectator*, confers great credit on Mr. Marvell's poetry.

"When all thy mercies, O! my God,
My rising soul surveys;
Transported with the view, I'm lost,
In wonder, love, and praise.

"O! how shall words with equal warmth,
The gratitude declare,
That glows within my ravish'd heart!
But thou can'st read it there.

"Thy providence my life sustain'd,
And all my wants redress'd;
When in the silent womb I lay,
And hung upon the breast." &c.

Perhaps, however, an ode, also inserted in the *Spectator*, in point of dignity of thought, and harmony of composition, ought to be considered as one of the first productions of the author.

"The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue ethereal sky;
And spangled heavens, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim:

The unwearied sun from day to day
Does his Creator's power display;
And publishes to ev'ry land,
The work of an Almighty hand.

"Soon as the ev'ning shades prevail,
The moon pursues the wond'rous tale;
And nightly to the list'ning earth
Repeats the story of her birth.

The celebrated elegiac ballad of "William and Margaret," claimed and printed by Mr. Mallet, in his *Poems*, is said by Captain Thompson, to have been written by our author, in 1670.

Having thus attempted to convey some idea of the works of Andrew Marvell, it only remains to be lamented, that the account of his latter years is involved in almost inextricable obscurity. After publishing his last celebrated work, he appears to have withdrawn for a while. The last letter extant, is one

from him to his friend Mr. Popple, dated June 10, 1678, in which he observes: "There have been great rewards offered in private, and considerable in the *Gazette*, to any one that would inform of the author—Three or four printed books since have described, as near as it was proper to go, the man being a member of parliament, Mr. Marvell, to have been the author: but if he had, surely he should not have escaped being questioned in parliament, or some other place." On the 29th of July, however he appears to have been at Hull, and it is evident, from an entry in the books of the corporation, "that he held several discourses about the town's affairs."

Captain Thompson, the last editor of his work, who supposes him to have been treacherously murdered, by means of a potion, expresses himself in the following manner:

"And yet, alas! the period of his days was suddenly made on the 10th of August, and by poison; for he was healthful and vigorous, to the moment he was seized with the premeditated ruin. Thus fell this great, good, and glorious man, in the fifty-eighth year of his age; after passing through a rugged life of perpetual danger, a cruel sacrifice to the diabolical machinations of the most profligate and wicked men.*

* Implicit credit ought not to be given to the accounts of poisoning, with which we frequently meet in history. In an age when ignorance of diseases prevailed, and suspicion was active, it was common to attribute sudden or uncommon deaths to poison. Many of these tales have been refuted on irrefragable evidence, and for the honour of human nature, it is hoped, other supposed instances of violent deaths might be refuted if we were in possession of all the documents necessary to elucidate such portions of history. It is more charitable, and we hope much nearer the truth to arraign former ages on account of their general credulity, than to brand

Andrew Marvell, whose life was illustrious, and whose death appears to have been equivocal, is described by Dr. Granger, "as of a middling stature, pretty strong set, roundish faced, cherry cheeked, hazel eyed, brown haired." We are told also in the Biographical History, "that he was in conversation very modest, and of very few words." There was a portrait of him, painted in 1661, in the possession of the late Thomas Hollis, esq. of Lincoln's Inn, F.R. and A.S.S. who was a great admirer of his character, independence, and talents. Basire executed a print after this, in 1776, and it is observed of the original, "that if it does not look so lively and witty, it is from the chagrin and awe he had of the restoration, just then effected." The clerical whiskers adorn the upper lip, and the countenance possesses rather a sombrous appearance: in short, according to one who esteemed him greatly, "he is exhibited when he was forty-one, in all the sobriety and decency of the then departed commonwealth."

In point of language many of his compositions are penned in a majestic style; although at times he could assume the *builesque*, and was considered by his contemporaries, as one of the wittiest and most humorous writers of that day. In Latin too, as well as English, he wrote with great facility and eloquence; and it was he who drew up the state-

so many with cruelty, as we must do, if we admit without examination, the many accounts which history hands down to us on this subject. Impartial justice in judging fairly of our common nature requires us to pause and doubt.—(B. M. M.)

papers, during the protectorate under the inspection of Milton. It was he also who penned the *Parliamenti Angliæ Declaratio*."

Marvell was more eminent for his virtues and his talents, than for his wealth. He, however left behind him a small patrimonial estate, on which, and the honourable allowance from his constituents, paid after the manner of ancient times, he subsisted with credit; for having but few wants, he was neither extravagant or expensive. As he was the last representative in this country who received pay from those he represented, so he appears to have been the only one, who was ever buried at their expense; the corporation of Hull having ordered fifty pounds to be issued for that purpose, September 30, 1678.

His body was interred in the church of St. Giles' in the fields; and in 1688, a monument was erected there to his memory by the town of Kingston-upon-Hull, with an epitaph, at once expressive of "their grief and gratitude." This having been torn down by the zealous royalists, another inscription was placed at the expense of one of his relatives, of which the following are the concluding lines:

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF ANDREW MARVELL.

As a strenuous assertor of the constitution,
Laws and liberties of England,
And out of family affection, and admiration
Of the uncorrupted probity of his life
and manners,

ROBERT NETTLETON, of London, merchant, his
Grand Nephew,

Hath caused this small memorial of him,
To be erected in the year 1764.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

THE EVILS OF MENDICITY, AND THE
DISADVANTAGE OF SUPPORTING THE
POOR IN IDLENESS.

THE utility of a system, which combines labour with support, is apparent, as practically and beneficially brought into effect by the plan of houses of industry.—“A prince of Liege, in order to cancel all at once the wrong side of his spiritual account, bequeathed on his death-bed, his whole fortune, which was very large, to the poor, appointing the magistrates of Liege his administrators. The consequence is, that of all the beggars and vagabonds in the Netherlands, Liege is now the common receptacle. It is no uncommon thing for an army of five or six thousand of these people to invest the house of the chief magistrate, and threaten to extirpate him, and all his generation, with fire and sword, if he does not instantly make a pecuniary distribution. The gentleman from whom I have this account, and who is a person of sense and veracity, resided some time in Liege, and to give an idea of the multitude of beggars that swarm in the streets of the town, told me further, that one day in walking half a mile, he gave away, to professed beggars, not less than fifty-eight pieces of money.” [*Letters of James Beattie, L.L.D. lately published. The one whence this anecdote was extracted, bears date in 1774.*]

SHAKESPEARE.

Mrs. Montague, in a letter to Dr. Beattie, on hearing that some verses had been made on a dove alighting on the statue of Shakespeare, erected by Garrick, at Stratford-upon-Avon, remarks,—“I wish much

to see the verses on the pretty incident of the dove’s alighting on Shakespeare’s statue. Of whatever nature and disposition the animal had been, he might have been presented as a symbol of Shakespeare. The gravity and deep thought of the bird of wisdom: the sublime flight of the eagle to the starry regions, and the throne of Jove: the pensive song of the nightingale, when she shuns the noise of folly, and soothes the midnight visionary: *the pert jackdaw, that faithfully repeats the chit chat of the market or the shop:* the sky-lark, that soaring seems to sing to the denizens of the air, and set her music to the tone of beings of another region—would all assort with the genius of universal Shakespeare.”—

MODERNIZING.

The Emperor Napoleon, in order to give its proper weight to the French language, and to simplify the acquirement of useful knowledge, has ordered that all exercises and thesis in the universities throughout France, shall be performed and written in French; and that a knowledge of Latin and Greek shall, in no department of his government, be deemed a qualification for degrees, ranks, or offices, either political, medical, legal or clerical. The prescriptions of physicians are to be in French, and the service of the church is no longer to be performed except in the vernacular tongue.

The above alterations constitute a part of the great plan of simplification, which is at present making its way in the world, slowly but surely, notwithstanding the obloquy and prejudices which according to the present fashion of the times are

thrown on all improvements. "The learned languages," will be less prized, as the stock of present intellect is increased. The times are changed since knowledge was secluded from vulgar gaze in the Greek and Latin languages. They resembled the monasteries in which the votaries of learning at its revival kept retired. Now philosophy is

gradually accustoming herself to dwell among men. She is deserting the cloister, and taking up her abode "in swarming cities vast," and amid "assembled men" in the various walks of life.

We might condescend to receive advantage even from French improvements.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

THE BLUSH.

LOVELIER than the roses flush,
More touching than soft music's charms,
Is timid woman's feeling blush,
When aught the conscious soul alarms.
O Nature! thou, and thou alone,
Can'st soften, melt us, or refine,
One genuine touch each heart must own;
Th' enchanting blush is truly thine.
Tis love's own eloquence! which speaks
Directly from, and to the heart,
Portraying on the modest cheeks,
What trembling lips dare not impart.
For love cold reasoning still disdains,
Nor waits for words his power to shew,
But rushes potent through the veins,
Triumphant on the face to glow.
Bright harbinger from feeling's source!
Morn's crimson glow, eve's tints are fine,
We feel, we own their beauty's force,
But ah, we feel them not like thine!
Thou speak'st from *moral beauty's* store,
Speak'st truth and virtue in the heart,
And sentiments deep in its core,
That language, weak, can ne'er impart.
O glowing thoughts, and feelings warm!
Ye that the sacred blush inspire,
Quit not, O never quit this form,
Lest virtue languish and expire.

DELIA.

TO ELIZA.

IN ANSWER TO HER QUESTION, "WHY
DO YOU SIGH?"

TIS not for grandeur, power or wealth,
That thus I heave the sigh by stealth,

Though fortune still has past my door,
I have been bless'd, and yet been poor.
No, riches ne'er shall cause a sigh,
Or bid a tear-drop wet my eye.

Nor o'er past sorrows do I mourn;
Tho' much, alas! this heart has borne,
Should I the painful tale disclose,
Thy gentle breast would feel my woes.
Thy heart for me would heave a sigh,
And tears would dim thy crystal eye.

But time's blest hand has soothed my mind,
I bow to Providence resigned:
Now seldom back I turn my view,
Lest scenes of grief awake anew;
And if they steal o'er memory's eye,
I strive to check the rising sigh.

But say, Eliza, could'st thou bear,
To see thy only son *most dear*,
Whole years beneath the grasp of death,
Just struggling to retain his breath.
Would tears not often dim thine eye,
Would'st thou not, if a mother, sigh?

To bear long nights his weary head,
And each approaching minute dread,
To see death's image in that face,
Where dear lost features thou could'st
trace.

To watch that mild benignant eye,
So like his sire's, *O thou would'st sigh*.

I see that cheek where roses blew,
Now shrunk, and of the lily's hue,
And Oh, past scenes float o'er my brain,
When in some interval of pain
I mark the witty prompt reply;
My heart then heaves a double sigh.

Poor boy! no father's eye meets thine,
 No breast to sympathize, save mine;
 A trembling asp I stand alone,
 None to approve, if duty's done.
 Then, ah! no longer wonder why
 The widow's lonely heart should sigh.

DELIA.

THE BOY AND THE BUTTERFLY.

Translated from the French.

'T WAS in a garden sweet and gay,
 A beauteous boy rov'd with delight,
 Before him in a rich display
 Of colours glittering in the ray,
 A butterfly attracts his sight.

From flower to flower the fickle thing
 In many a sportive ringlet flies,
 And seems so lovely on the wing,
 No weariness the chase can bring,
 Though vainly the pursuit he tries.

Now on a pink in balmy rest
 He hopes to make the prize his own;
 Now in a rose's fragrant breast
 He thinks its flight he shall arrest,
 But, lo! again the wanton's flown.

Yet still the chase no toil can bring;
 Though vainly the pursuit he tries;
 So tempting seems the lovely thing
 Thus seen at distance on the wing,
 Still glittering in his ardent eyes.

And now his hopes to tantalize,
 Behold it on a myrtle near!
 Next on a violet bank it lies—
 He steals and with his hat he tries
 To cover the gay flutterer here.

But all in vain each art and wile
 To catch the beauteous playful thing;
 Yet still he disregards his toil,
 Its beauties still his pains beguile,
 Thus seen before him on the wing.

At last the flutterer he espies,
 Half buried in a tulip's bell,
 He grasps the flower in glad surprise—
 Within his grasp the insect dies!—
 His vain regrets, his tears now tell.

Thus pleasure that gay butterfly,
 In prospect cheers the mind;
 But if too eagerly we clasp,
 It perishes within our grasp,
 And leaves a sting behind.

DELIA.

MELANCHOLY MOMENTS.

"O madam, there are moments in which
 we live years: moments that steal the roses

from the cheek of health, and planted
 furrows in the brow of care."

WHEN jostling with a world of care,
 And struggling to sustain my part,
 At times a prey to black despair,
 I say, within this aching heart,
 "O that I had wings like a dove,
 Then would I flee away, and be at rest."

The freezing look by grandeur dealt,
 The cold salute of heartless pride,
 When, weakly sensitive, I've felt
 Within my wounded mind, I've cried
 "O that I had wings like a dove,
 Then would I flee away, and be at rest."

Or when neglect with blighting power,
 Has apathized the sinking heart,
 In that forlorn deserted hour,
 I've cried, "O life with thee I'd part,
 "O that I had wings like a dove,
 Then would I flee away, and be at rest."

But, ah! when musing on the grave,
 Where those I love have sunk to rest,
 Distracted then in thought I rave,
 And sigh within this tortured breast,
 "O that I had wings like a dove,
 Then would I flee away, and be at rest."

Fancy with all her dreams has fled,
 To me the world has nought to give,
 Even hope within my heart is dead,
 Then, wherefore should I wish to live!
 "O that I had wings like a dove,
 Then would I flee away, and be at rest."

Even now, my mental gloom redoubling,
 By care and grief at once oppressed—
 To "where the wicked cease from trou-
 bling,
 And the weary are at rest."

"O that I had wings like a dove,
 There would I flee away, and be at rest."

DELIA.

SELECTED POETRY.

BY A PRISONER.

STRANGER, whoe'er thou art, whose
 restless mind,
 Like me, within these walls, is cribb'd,
 confin'd;
 Learn how each want that heaves our mu-
 tual sighs,
 A woman's soft solicitude supplies.
 From her white breast, retreat all rude
 alarms;
 Or fly the magic circle of her arms,

While souls exchange'd, alternate grace acquire,
And passions catch from passions, mutual fire.

What tho' to deck this roof no arts combine,
Such forms as rival ev'ry fair but mine,
No nodding plumes our humble couch above,
Proclaim each triumph of unbounded love;
No silver lamp, with sculptur'd cupids gay,
O'er yielding beauty pours its midnight ray;
Yet fancy's charms could time's slow flight beguile,
Sooth ev'ry care, and make this dungeon smile;
—In her, what kings—what Saints have wish'd is given—
Her heart is empire—and her smile is heaven.

LINES FROM TIBULLUS TRANSLATED.

Ilam, quid quid agit, quo quo vestigia vertit,
Componit furtim, sub-sequiturque decor;
Seu solvit crines, fuse decet esse capillos
Seu composuit, comptis est veneranda comis;
Urit, seu tyria voluit procedere palla,
Urit, seu nivea, candida veste venit,
Talis in æterno felix Vertumnus Olympo,
Mille habet ornatus, mille decenter habet.

TRANSLATION.

Where'er her eye, where'er her step she bends,
Composure softens, majesty attends.
Do her loose tresses sport in wavy gold?
What grace appears in ev'ry wanton fold?
Do circling braids her captive looks entwine,
What heavenly charms, in each soft ringlet shine?
Behold her move in purple state attir'd,
All eyes are ravish'd, and all hearts are fir'd.
See her, in vests of virgin whiteness, rove,
And ev'ry burning bosom melts to love.
Thus, though a thousand forms Vertumnus wear,
In every form a thousand charms appear.

WORDS OF THE FAVORITE MOUNTAIN SONG OF THE SWISS, "RETOUR DES VACHES."

Quand reverrai je en un jour,
Tous les objets de mon amour?

Nos claires ruisseaux,
Nos coteaux,
Nos hameaux,
Nos montagnes?
Et l'ornemens des nos campagnes?
La, si gentil le sabeau,
A l'ombre d'un ormeau,
Quand danserai je au son du chalumeau?
Quand reverrai je en un jour,
Tous les objets de mon amour?
Mon Pere,
Ma Mere,
Mon Frere,
Ma Saur,
Mes Agneaux,
Mes Troupeaux,
Ma Bergere,
Quand reverrai je en un jour,
Tous les objets de mon amour?

AN EPISTLE TO A FRIEND IN TOWN.

BY DYER, AUTHOR OF THE "FLEECE."

HAVE my friends in the town, in the gay busy town.

Forgot such a man as J. Dyer?—
Or heedless despise they, or pity the clown,
Whose bosom no pageantries fire.

No matter—no matter—content in the shades
(Contented?—why ev'ry thing charms me.)

Fall in tunes all adown the green steep, ye cascades,
Till hence rigid virtue alarms me.

Till outrage arises, or misery needs
The swift the intrepid avenger,
Till sacred religion, or liberty bleeds,
Then mine be the deed, and the danger.

Alas! what a folly!—what wealth and dominion

We keep up in sin and in sorrow;
Immense is the toil, yet the labour how vain!

Is not life to be over—to-morrow?

Then glide on my moments, the few that I have,
Smooth-shaded, and quiet, and even:
While gently the body descends to the grave,
And the spirit arises to heaven.

EPIGRAM

ON SEEING A FRENCH WATCH ROUND
THE NECK OF A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG
WOMAN.

MARK what we gain from foreign lands,
 TIME cannot now be said to linger,—
 Allow'd to lay his two rude hands,
 Where others dare not lay a finger.

INSCRIPTION IN A FOREST.

STRANGER—whose steps have reached
 this solitude,

Know that this lonely spot is dear to one
 Devoted, with no unrequited zeal,
 To NATURE. Here, delighted, he has
 heard

The rustling of the woods, that now, per-
 chance,

Melodious to the gale of summer move;
 And underneath their shade, on yon smooth
 rock,

With grey, and yellow lichens overgrown,
 Often reclia'd—watching the silent flow
 Of this perspicuous rivulet, that steals
 Along, its verdant course, 'till all around,
 Had fill'd his senses with tranquillity.

And, ever, sooth'd in spirit, he returned
 A happier, better man. Stranger, per-
 chance,

Therefore the stream more lovely to thine
 eyes

Will glide along—and to the summer gale
 The woods wave more melodious. Let
 thine hand

Cleanse from this sculptur'd stone the woods
 and moss.

EPIGRAPH.

Here lies the Body of O—— B——
 A Man

Whose good sense, good nature,
 And

Undaunted integrity
 Live

In the memory of his friends:
 Whose conduct awaits the judgment
 Of another Judge, and another Jury;
 God, and Posterity.

He died in prison, on the —— suddenly, but
 not unprepared.

"Ecco il fato di un reformatore."

BY A LADY.

ON OBSERVING SOME WHITE HAIRS ON
 THE HEAD OF HER HUSBAND.

THOU to whose pow'r, reluctantly, we
 bend,
 Foe to life's fairy dreams, relentless time,

Alike the dread of lover, and of friend,
 Why stamp thy seal on manhoods rosy
 prime,
 Already twining 'mid my 'Thirsis' hair,
 The snowy wreaths of age, the monuments
 of care.

Thro' all her forms, tho' nature owns thy
 sway,

That boasted sway thou'lt here exert in
 vain,

To the last-beam of life's declining day,
 Thirsis shall view, unmov'd, thy potent
 reign;

Secure to please, while goodness knows to
 charm,

Fancy and taste delight, or sense and
 truth inform.

Tyrant!—when from that lip of crimson
 glow,

Swept by thy chilling wing, the rose
 shall fly,

When thy rude sigh indents his polish'd
 brow,

And quenched is all the lustre of his eye,
 When ruthless age disperses every grace,

Each smile that beams from that enchant-
 ing face.

Then thro' her stores shall active mem'ry
 rove,

Teaching each various charm to bloom a-
 new,

And still the raptur'd eye of faithful love,
 Shall bend on Thirsis its delighted view,

Still shall he triumph, with resistless pow-
 er;

Still rule the conquer'd heart, to lifes' re-
 motest hour.

LA VIOLETTE.

TU n'es plus la reine des fleurs,
 Rose—modele d'inconstance

Qu'elle est courte ton existence,
 Dans un jour tu nais, et tu meurs,

Charmante et simple Violette!
 Je te prefere en tous les tems,

Ton odeur suave, et parfaite,
 Est le Presage du Printemps.

La rose paroît au grand jour,
 Ainsi que la Coquetterie;

Pour eviter la Flaterie,
 Sous l'herbe tu fais ton sejour,

Ton rivale a l'hommage invite,
 C'est Venus, avec ses appas;

Toi, tu ressembles au merite,
 Qui perce, et ne se montre pas.

Ce qui plaît aux yeux, plaît au cœur,
Telle est la maxime en usage,
L'homme est léger, il est volage,
Et néglige le vrai bonheur ;

La nature pour sa toilette
A crée les roses par milliers.
Sages !—Cherchez la Violette,
Laissez aux fous tous les rosiers.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

A new and expeditious mode of Budding, by Thomas Andrew Knight, esq. F. R. S.

PARKINSON, in his *Paradisus Londoniensis*, which was published in 1629, has observed, that the nursery-men of his days had been so long in the practice of substituting one variety of fruit for another, that the habit of doing so was almost become hereditary amongst them: were we to judge from the modern practice, in some public nurseries, we might suspect the possessors of them, to be the offspring of intermarriages, between the descendants of those alluded to by Parkinson. He has, however, mentioned his "very good friend, Master John Tradescant" and "Master John Miller," as exceptions; and similar exceptions are, I believe, to be found in modern days. It must, however, be admitted, that wherever the character of the leaf does not expose the error of the grafter, as in the different varieties of the peach, and nectarine, mistakes will sometimes occur; and therefore a mode of changing the variety, or of introducing a branch of another variety, with great expedition, may possibly be acceptable to many readers of the *Horticultural Transactions*.

The luxuriant shoots of peach and nectarine trees are generally barren; but the lateral shoots emitted in the same season, by them are often productive of fruit, particularly if treat-

ed in the manner recommended by me in the *Horticultural Transactions* of 1808. In the experiments I have there described, the bearing wood was afforded by the natural buds of the luxuriant shoots; but I thought it probable that such might as readily be afforded by the inserted buds of another variety, under the appropriate management. I therefore, as early in the month of June, of the year 1808, as the luxuriant shoots of my peach trees were grown sufficiently firm to permit the operation, inserted buds of other varieties into them, employing two distinct ligatures to hold the buds in their places. One ligature was first placed above the bud inserted; and upon the transverse section through the bark: the other, which had no farther office than that of securing the bud, was applied in the usual way. As soon as the buds (which never fail under the preceding circumstances) had attached themselves, the ligatures last applied were taken off, but the others were suffered to remain. The passage of the sap upwards was in consequence much obstructed, and the inserted buds began to vegetate strongly in July: and when these had afforded shoots about four inches long, the remaining ligatures were taken off, to permit the excess of sap to pass on; and the young shoots were nailed to the wall. Being there properly exposed to light, their wood ripened well, and afford-

ed blossoms in the succeeding spring: this would, I do not doubt, have afforded fruit; but that, leaving my residence at Elton for this place, I removed my trees, and the whole of their blossoms in the last spring proved, in consequence, equally abortive.

On the parts of Trees primarily impaired by age. In a letter from T. A. Knight, F.R.S. to the Rt. Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Bart. K.B.P.R.S.—From the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London.

In the first communication I had the honour to address to you (it was in the year 1795), I stated the result of many experiments on grafted trees, from which I inferred that each variety can be propagated with success, during a limited period only; and that the graft, or other detached part of an old tree, or old variety, can never form that, which can with propriety be called a young tree.

I have subsequently endeavoured to ascertain which, amongst the various organs that compose a tree, first fails to execute its office, and thus tends to bring on the incurable debility of old age; and the result of the experiments appears sufficiently interesting, to induce me to communicate an account of them to you.

Whatever difference exists between the functions of animal and vegetable life, there is a very obvious analogy between some of the organs of plants, and those of animals; and it does not appear very improbable, that the correspondent organ, in each, may first fail to execute its office; and satisfactory evidence of the imperfect action of any particular organ can much more easily be obtained in the vegetable, than in the animal world.—

For a tree may be composed, by the art of the grafter, of the detached parts of many others; and the defective, or efficient, operation, of each organ, may thus be observed with the greatest accuracy. But such observations cannot be made upon animals; because the operations necessary cannot be performed; and therefore, though there would be much danger of error in incautiously transferring the phenomena of one class of organized beings to another, I conceive that experiments on plants may be, in some cases, useful to the investigator of the animal economy. They may direct him in his pursuits, and possibly facilitate his inquiries into the immediate causes of the decay of animal strength and life; and on a subject of so much importance to mankind, no source of information should remain unexplored, and no lights, however feeble, be disregarded.

Naturalists, both of ancient and modern times, have considered the structure of plants, as an inversion of that of animals, and having compared the roots to the intestines, and the leaves to the lungs, of animals; and the analogy between the vegetable sap, and animal blood, is very close and obvious. The experiments also, of which I have at different periods communicated accounts to you, supported by the facts previously ascertained by other naturalists, scarcely leave any reasonable grounds of doubt, that the sap of trees circulates, as far as is apparently necessary to, or consistent with, their state of existence and growth.

The roots of trees, particularly those in coppices, which are felled at stated periods, continue so long to produce, and feed, a succession of branches, that no experiments were wanted to satisfy me, that it is

not any defective action of the root which occasions the debility and diseases of old varieties of the apple and pear tree; and indeed experience every where shows, that a young seedling stock does not give the character of youth to the inserted bud or graft. I, however, procured plants from cuttings of some very old varieties of the apple, which readily emit roots; and these plants at the end of two years were grafted, about two inches above the ground, with a new and very luxuriant variety of the same species. These grafts grew very freely, and the roots themselves, at the end of four or five years, probably contained at least ten times as much alburnum, as they would have contained, had the trees remained ungrafted. The roots were also free from every appearance of disease, or defect.

Some crab-stocks were at the same time grafted with the golden pippin, in a soil where the wood of that variety rarely lived more than two years; and I again grafted the annual shoots of the golden pippin, with cuttings of a young and healthy crab-tree, so as to include a portion of the wood of the golden pippin, between the roots and branches of the native uncultivated species, or crab-tree; and in this situation it grew just as well as the wood of the stock and branches. Some branches also of the golden pippin trees, which I mentioned in my former communication of 1795, being much cankered, were cut off about a foot above the junction of the grafts to the stocks, and were regrafted with a new and healthy variety. Parts of the wood of the golden pippin, in which were many cankered spots, were thus placed between the newly-inserted grafts, and the stocks; and these parts have subsequently become perfectly free

from disease, and the wounds, previously made by canker, have been wholly covered with new and healthy bark. These facts, therefore, satisfied me, that the debility and diseases of old varieties of fruit of this species, did not originate in any defective action of the bark or alburnum, either of the root, or of the stem and branches, and my attention was constantly directed to the leaf and succulent animal shoot.

A few crab-stocks were grafted with cuttings of golden pippin, in a situation and soil, where I had previously ascertained that the wood of the golden pippin rarely remained in health at the end of a second year; and, as soon as the annual shoots had acquired sufficient growth and firmness, numerous buds of a new and luxuriant variety of apple, which had recently sprung from seed, were inserted in them. During the succeeding winter the natural buds of the golden pippin branches were destroyed, and those inserted suffered alone to remain; and as soon as the leaves of these had unfolded, and entered on their office, every symptom of debility and disease disappeared in the bark and wood of the golden pippin; and each continued to perform its office, just as well as the wood and bark of the young seedling stocks could have done under similar circumstances.— I made nearly the same experiments on the pear tree, and with the same result.

I have endeavoured, in several former communications, to prove that the sap of plants circulates through their leaves, as the blood of animals circulates through their lungs; and I have not subsequently found any facts, in the writings of other naturalists, or in my own experiments, which militate against this conclusion. I have also observed, that grafted trees, of old and debilitated va-

rieties of fruit, became most diseased in rich soils, and when grafted on stocks of the most vigorous growth; which has induced me to suspect, that in such cases more food is collected, and carried up into the plant, than its leaves can prepare and assimilate, and that the matter thus collected, which would have promoted the health and growth in a vigorous variety, accumulates, and generates disease in the extremities of the branches and annual shoots, whilst the lower part of the trunk and roots remain, generally, free from any apparent disease. I am, therefore, much disposed to attribute the diseases and debility of old age in trees, to inability to produce leaves, which can efficiently execute their natural office; and to some consequent imperfection in the circulating fluid. It is true that the leaves are annually reproduced, and therefore, annually new: but there is, I conceive, a very essential difference between the new leaves of an old, and of a young variety: and in support of this opinion, I shall observe, that the external character of the leaf of the same variety at two, and at twenty years old, is very dissimilar; and it therefore appears not improbable, that further changes will have taken place at the end of two centuries*.

*The leaf of a seedling apple or pear-tree, when the plant is very young, is generally almost wholly free from the pubescence or down, which subsequently appears on its under surface; and which Bonnet and M. Mirbel, have supposed to increase its surface and powers. But I feel little disposed to adopt this hypothesis, having observed that the leaves of some new varieties of the apple, which have sprung from seeds of the Siberian crab, have both surfaces nearly equally smooth; and that these varieties grow faster, and bear heavier crops of very rich fruit, than any others, without being exhausted or injured.

If these opinions be well founded, and the leaves of trees be analogous to the lungs of animals, is it very improbable that the natural debility of old age of trees and of animals, may originate from a similar source?—This is a question, upon which I am not by any means prepared to give an opinion: but I believe it will very generally be admitted, that the human subject is best formed for long life, when the chest is best formed to permit the lungs to move with most freedom. I have also long and attentively observed amongst our domesticated animals, that those individuals longest retain their health and strength, and best bear excessive labour and sufficient food, in which the chest is most deep and capacious, proportionately to the length of current the circulating fluid has to run; and the same remark will, I believe, be generally found applicable to the human species.

French Turnip; a variety of the Brassica Napus, or Rape which has long been cultivated upon the continent; by Mr. James Dickson, F.L.S. V.P.H.S.

Trans. Hort. Soc. vol. I.—26.

FOR above twelve years, I have seen this plant brought to our market in Covent Garden, but only by one person, and I believe it has been chiefly sold to foreigners, though, when once known, it will be a very acceptable root in most families. It is much more delicate in flavour than our common turnip, and is to be used in the same way. In Germany it enriches all their soups, and there is no necessity to cut away the outer skin, or rind, which is thinner than that of the common turnip, but only to scrape it. Stewed in gravy, it forms a most excellent dish, and being white,

and of the shape of a carrot, when mixed alternately with those roots upon a dish, it is very ornamental. The following different receipts for dressing them, are by an eminent French cook:

"Take your roots, and wash them very clean with a brush; then scrape them, cutting a thin slice away from the top, and as much from the bottom as will make them all of equal lengths: boil them in water, with a little salt, till they are tender; then put them into a stew-pan, with a gill of veal gravy, two tea-spoonfuls of lemon-pickle, one of mushroom ketchup, a little mace, and salt, and let them just simmer, but not boil, for a quarter of an hour; thicken the gravy with flour and butter, and serve them up hot."

Take your roots, and after preparing and boiling them as before, put them into a stew-pan, with a little water, working in as much flour and butter as will make it as thick as cream; let them simmer five minutes, then place the stew-pan near the stove, to keep hot; just before you dish them, add two large spoonfuls of cream, mixed with the yolk of an egg, and a little mace beat very fine, shaking the pan over the fire for two or three minutes, but do not let them boil: put white sippets of French bread round the dish."

"Take your largest roots, clean them as before, and cut them in slices as thick as a crown-piece, then fry them till they are of a pale brown colour on both sides: after which, put them into a stew-pan, with as much water as will cover them, to simmer for ten minutes; then add a large spoonful of Madeira or Ceres wine, the same of browning, a few blades of mace shred, two tea spoonfuls of lemon-pickle; thicken the liquor with a little flour and butter,

and serve them up with toasted sippets round the dish."

"One great advantage attending the cultivation of this vegetable is, that it requires no manure whatever; any soil that is poor and light, especially if sandy, suits it; where it seldom exceeds the size of one's thumb or middle finger; in rich manured earth it grows much larger, but is not so sweet or good in quality. The season for sowing the principal crop is any time from the middle of July to the end of August, or even later in this country, where our frost seldom sets in before Christmas. If the season should prove dry, it will be necessary to water the beds regularly, till the plants have got three or four leaves, otherwise they will be destroyed by the fly; and this crop will supply the table till April. If wanted during the whole year, a little seed may be sown the latter end of October, and these plants, if they do not miscarry, will be fit for use in April and May. The last crop may be sown from the middle of January to the middle of February, which will also come in the end of May and June; but in July and August they will not be very good, and as that season of the year there is an abundance of other vegetables, it is of less consequence: upon a north border, however, and in a sandy soil, it is possible to have them sweet and tender during the whole summer.

To save good seeds, you should in February, or the beginning of March, transplant some of the finest roots placing them two feet asunder and keeping the ground repeatedly hoed; when the seed-pods are formed, they should be guarded from birds with nets. As soon as they change colour, cut the heads, and spread them to dry in the sun, after which beat out the seed, and lay it up for use.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

HISTORY.

An Historical Account of the Ancient Culdees of Iona, and of their Settlements in Scotland, England and Ireland; by John Jamieson, D.D.F.R.S. and F.A., S.E. £1 11s. 6d.

The New Chronology, or Historian's Companion, corrected to 1811; by Thomas Tegg, 5s. 6d.

The Life of Bonaparte; to be published in Numbers, 1s. each.

History of Spain; by John Bigland, 2 vols. 8vo. £1 4s. boards.

LAW.

Observations on the Criminal Law of England; by Sir Samuel Romilly, 2s. 6d.

The Debates during the Last Session of Parliament, upon the Bills for Abolishing the Punishment of Death, for Stealing to the amount of Forty Shillings, &c. by Basil Montague, esq. 5s.

Cobbett's Complete Collection of State Trials.

MEDICINE, SURGERY.

A Natural History of the Human Teeth, with a Treatise on their Diseases; by Joseph Murphy, 6s.

Observations on the Diseases of the Rectum, &c. by Thomas Copeland, 5s.

NOVELS, ROMANCES.

Self-control, £1. 1s. in Boards.

Amatonda; a Tale from the German of Anton Wall, 6s.

The Shipwreck; or Memoirs of an Irish Officer and his Family; in 3 vols. by Theodore Edgeworth.

MISCELLANIES.

Extracts from the Diary of a Lover of Literature; by Thomas Green, esq. £1. 1s. boards.

Young Albert, the Roscius. Exhibiting

a Series of Characters from Shakespeare &c. 8s.

Moral Truths, and Studies of Natural History; by Mrs. Cockle, 7s.

Letters from Mrs. Palmerston to her Daughter, inculcating Morality, 2d edition, 15s.

A Popular Treatise on the Structure Formation, and Management of Teeth, by John Fuller, Surgeon Dentist, 12mo. 6s. with 6 4to engravings.

A Winter in Paris; or Memoirs of Madame De C***, written by herself. Comprising a view of the present state of society and manners in that capital, 3 vols. 18s.

No. 1. of the British Review, and London Critical Journal, 6s.

POETRY.

Agnes, the Indian Captive; a Poem in four Cantos; by Rev. John Mitford, 7s.

Poems, by Miss Holford, Author of "Wallace, or the Fight of Falkirk." 6s.

Notice.—Now publishing by Subscription, the History and Antiquities of the County of the Town of Carrickfergus, from the Earliest Records to the Present Time; also a Statistical Survey of said County:—accompanied with an Ancient and Modern Plan of the Town, and several other Plates. The work will be comprised in about 300 pages, printed on a nice wove paper, with a new type, price to Subscribers, 5s. in boards, to be paid on delivery of the book. Subscribers names shall be printed. Subscriptions are received by the respective Booksellers in Belfast, and by several Gentlemen of Belfast, Carrickfergus, and other towns of Ireland.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

WE have to congratulate the country on one instance of late, where the freedom of the press, assailed by an "ex officio" information, has sought and found effectual protection in that asylum of the constitution—

the judicature of the people. In legal decisions relative to property, and affairs of civil life, a perpetual recurrence to precedent, becomes necessary, for the purpose of preserving an unity in the law,

an uniformity in decision, by presenting a ready appeal to known, and pre-established rule. The constancy, or as we may term it, the *continuity* of the laws is thus preserved for the general advantage. The security of private rights is more assuredly authenticated, and the integrity, or the wholeness of the laws, is placed beyond the danger of capricious or arbitrary determinations. In all such cases, the judge must impart to the jury the benefits of his experience and erudition. They must be instructed by knowledge which is merely professional, the fruit of laborious research, and a replete memory. The jury, without such assistance, would endanger the salutary consistency of the law, by casual and uncertain decisions, and, in reality, would injure their most valuable rights, by their rashness or ignorance.

But in cases, such as those of libel, a jury is, in truth, *the* judicature appointed by the constitution, to guard the rights of the people, and a free press, the palladium of that constitution; in the same way that the judges, in their tribunal, are bound to maintain the uniformity and consistency of the law. In such cases, precedent and Profession are not of such importance to the tribunal of the people, in the discharge of *their* constitutional duty. They have not occasion so much to consult the books, as to consider what lies before them, in daily life, looking only to *present* effects, and *prospective* tendencies. Of these they are qualified to judge as well, at least, as those accounted learned in the law, perhaps indeed better, by being less trammelled in professional habits, and having less flexibility to the influence of political power. It is among the worst signs of the times, and one of the most melancholy symptoms of the general apathy,

when the judicature of the people is easily daunted by the dictum of a judge, whose authority gradually accumulates, without a constant vigilance on the part of juries, into professional assumption, and thence into arbitrary determination. A selection from the people, at present, must bear the character, and partake of the qualities of the mass.

Invoking the genius of Alfred, who established juries, crushed corruption, and laid the foundations of the British constitution, we should not hesitate to address juries, in the following terms:

Recollect the nature of your office, the extent of its powers, the boundary of its duties. You are the *living charter* of the public safety. The constitution, which you recollect to our memories, made you the grand barrier between the liberties of the people and the prerogative of the crown. You are to check violence and partiality *wherever* found. You are to be actuated by no interested motives, influenced by no private ends, responsible to God and your country, to arbitrate equally and impartially between the king and the people.

You are chosen from the vicinage, that an acquaintance with the case, and characters concerned, may produce perfect justice from perfect knowledge. Remember that you are, also, in the vicinage, nay the very contact of much passion and prejudice. You are raised and placed apart in the court of justice, to elevate your minds also, above the foul air of party, and to look down from the height of a clear and serene judgment, and with the sympathies of humanity on the case set before you, considering it, under *all* its relations of character, of times, and of circumstances. The office of a jury in periods, when men and the times are out of temper, ought not to

resemble the movement of a blind machine, but they are, as men, to pause, and make those allowances for others, which, in similar situations, they should wish made for themselves.

Ask your consciences, how far the dislike of particular, political principles; how far the desire to put down a party, how far the temper of the times, and how far other collateral and incidental circumstances have tended to distort the judgment, and to make yourselves—a party. Separate, as you value your souls, separate all such circumstances from your consideration. Look not through the aggravating and monster-making medium of political antipathies, for judges as you are of the *present*, the *FUTURE* will judge you. Let not the idea of keeping down what you suppose to be a dangerous faction, induce you to proceed from vague, general, and indiscriminate condemnation of certain principles to the condemnation of human beings, made and moulded, like yourselves, without a calm, and impartial scrutiny of the whole character and conduct of the accused. Look not only to the single act and expression, but to the *context* of the man's life, and collect the inward, and invisible intention from a fair, we may say, *historical* comparison of the coincidence or disagreement, with the subject matter of accusation. Ask yourselves if you have not prejudged the case, and if this secret predecision has not proceeded on sentiments of hatred founded on some opinion foreign to the proper merits of the question. You are to give judgment on others,—judge yourselves.

Your power is great.—You are really and substantially the judges of the whole cause—of the law as well as of the fact. The more awful your responsibility. The accused

are to have “the judgment of their peers, and to be tried by the law of the land.” You are to consider, whether in you, the people will find *their peers*, such as the mercy and justice of the constitution warrant, and if you find reason to suspect that you are not so perfectly the peers of the people you try, in a season of party prejudice and animosity, you ought, on that account, to have a conscientious distrust of yourselves, and to lean towards mercy, as in this instance, partaking of the nature of justice.

You are to judge by “the law of the land,” by which you are to understand, as we conceive, not so much the tenor of this or that law, as the general spirit, the universal effects and tendencies of the criminal jurisprudence of the country, which, rising above the occasional turbulence of the times, and the agitations of the day, is, or ought to be uniform, permanent, and impartial.

You are not to humble the whole law of the land to particular laws of rigorous tendency and spirit.—You arise out of the people, not as accessory's of the executive power, but as the assertors and vindicators of fixed rules, unaffected by the inclinations of this or that administration of government. You are not the agents of a system of coercion, but uninfluenced by person, time, or place, to give the dictum of eternal justice, and to temper the occasional severity of law, by the mild principles of general legislation.

In some such terms, do we think that juries ought to be addressed, in a time like the present, when we see many persons, but no public, and when the words of a great man may be well applied to the people of Great Britain. Nunc quidem novo quodam morbo civitas moritur: ut cum omnes, ea, quæ sunt

acta, improhent, querantur, doleant *rarietas in re nulla sit*, aperte loquentur, et jam clare gemant, tamen medicina nulla effertur, nec videmus, qui finis cedendi, præter exitium, futurus sit. CICERO.

The recent verdict of acquittal pronounced by the jury in the case of the Hunts, for a supposed libel republished in the Examiner, will, we trust, operate salutarily in discouraging attempts to bear hard on the press. Lord Holland's motion on informations *ex officio*, though negatived for the present, will probably contribute to lessen the number of prosecutions. His forcible observations, if they do not produce amendment, at least caused irritation in a certain quarter, and discovered that the correction was felt. If juries persist in maintaining their independence, the liberty of the press may yet be preserved.

But to save our freedom, and preserve our rights, the mass of the people have an important part to act. A virgious few may for a season keep alive the spark of freedom, but no nation will be long free, except they cherish and assert the qualifications of freemen. THE LIBERTY OF THE PRESS, THE INDEPENDENCE OF JURIES, AND A REFORMED REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE are the essential supports of freedom. Without them, the semblance of liberty only is left. To these must be added, a large portion of PUBLIC SPIRIT, to animate and inform the mass. Otherwise, they will dwindle into mere forms, without efficacy. Public spirit alone can infuse life and vigour into the whole, and the continued exertions of this vital principle, can only preserve life in the body, for even a change in the manner of choosing representatives, according to the most approved system of parliamentary reform will otherwise be ineffectual. The most beautiful theory will be

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only an illusory dream, "the baseless fabric of a vision," unless PUBLIC SPIRIT, cherished by the people at large, confer a reality, and introduce practice. A people regardless of their own interests, and sunk into apathy, can never be rescued from destruction, without their own general exertions. The warning voice of disinterested patriotism will be heard in vain, and if the people at large will not help themselves, their fall cannot be at a great distance.

How differently speculation is viewed, when compared with libel, may be seen by the sentence pronounced on Charles Duffin for defrauding the linen-board. He has been sentenced to an imprisonment of only three months. Three years, two years, and 18 months are allotted to punish men accused of libels. Speculators injure the people, and libels affect the government. How different is the scale of punishment.

The clause introduced by the Judge Advocate into the mutiny-bill, allowing court-martials to commute the punishment of soldiers from lashing to imprisonment, will, we trust, lead at no distant period, to the total abolition of the former mode of punishment. The alteration is a tacit condemnation of the former practice, and is, abstractedly considered, a very commendable concession to popular feeling. Yet for some strong remarks on this subject of punishing by flogging, Cobbett is now suffering imprisonment, and the proprietors of the Examiner were lately prosecuted, but the jury pronounced their acquittal. Since their trial, such is the anomaly of the law, the proprietor of the Stamford News has been found guilty of publishing the same paper, for which the others were acquitted. It is fashionable to decry exertions to remove abuses, as acts of faction and sedition. We have now an instance of the good ef-

fects of free remarks towards the removal of an abuse. Although Wm. Cobbett remains in Newgate, soldiers will be benefited by the attention he has excited to their case. Wretched would be the state of that country, in which the people should become so sunk in apathy, and pusillanimity, that a few generous spirits would not be found nobly daring to speak truths at the risk of personal inconvenience, when the many are so absorbed in selfish views as to disregard the general welfare. To speak plainly, we fear, that with a very few virtuous exceptions, such is nearly the degraded state of these countries. In such a crisis, the friends of freedom should not suffer the victims of power to sink, for by a liberal support to the sufferers, they can best aid the freedom of the press. On this principle the subscription for Peter Finnerty was recommended in the last retrospect. We refer to the documents at the close of this article, for the state of the subscription, and if we are to calculate the scale of public spirit, by the present amount of the subscription, we regret to perceive that the graduation of the political barometer is so low.

A strong instance of the good effects of conciliation being exercised towards all classes, is exemplified in the history of Henry IV. of France, justly entitled in some respects to the character of the Great, and his faithful minister the Duke of Sully. How unlike was their conduct, bottomed on the firm principles of conciliation and mild rule, to the narrow and timid views of modern statesmen. Great minds grant nobly; but little minds do not become great by their elevation, and like "pinnies placed on pyramids," they retain their original insignificance. They never abandon the minutiae of office, or rule a nation by gaining their affections. Different indeed would

have been the course of happiness during the last fifty years, if the latter principle had swayed the public counsels. But a narrow, selfish, unenlightened policy prevailed; first producing a pitiful opposition to popular feeling in the case of Wilkes, and in similar transactions of that day; then rousing the Americans to successful resistance, and introducing all the miseries we are now suffering, from an injudicious interference in the affairs of France, and a hatred to liberty. They still go on in this system of exclusion and petty irritation, which lately dictated the letter from the Irish Secretary in relation to the catholic committee. A wise policy would adopt conciliation, and abstain from all improper causes of quarrels, or advancing with affected vigour, and suddenly retracting with the levity of feeble and ill-weighted counsels.

The catholics at a late aggregate meeting in Dublin, have agreed on a warm and affectionate address to the Prince Regent, and appointed a large deputation to present it to him. This measure is clogged with a second address to be presented by the same committee, praying for inquiry into the conduct of the Duke of Richmond, and Secretary Pole, and for their dismissal from office. In the situation in which the Regent retains the present ministry in office, not as confidential servants, but merely as agents, for the king, until the probability of his recovery is ascertained, it is not to be expected that the Prince can act in a manner congenial to his feelings in removing the Irish part of the administration. It does not appear prudent to have offered to him such a dilemma.

We cannot help noticing the intended publication of a Newspaper, by the title of "the Dublin Evening Express," which, in the prospectus, it is declared, will be

authentically Catholic, addressed, in an especial manner, to CATHOLIC IRELAND, and foretelling "that the long reserved destinies of good old *Catholic Ireland* will, at last, issue forth in mightiness to save the Empire, and in saving the Empire, to achieve, perhaps the deliverance of the christian world."

Now we feel much inclined to question the propriety or expediency of such a publication, inasmuch as we fear it will co-operate with the errors, the follies, and the crimes of past and present administration, in perpetuating a distinctness; a separating instead of an associating spirit; and a system of exclusion instead of assimilation. If protestant bigotry be desirous to drive down the stakes of a new PALE in Ireland, let not the Catholics be busied on their side, in the very same employment; but rather approve their liberality and wish to anticipate, complete emancipation, by mixing as much as possible with their protestant brethren; and not fall back, of themselves, into a sullen and suspicious seclusion. It is only from the time they began to coalesce with their fellow citizens, that they may date their deliverance from mental bondage, the first and great step to that complete emancipation, which we desire from our hearts, and in our prayers to that God whom we mutually adore.

Far from reproaching, we honour them for their attachment to their ancient, though not the most ancient mode of christianity. We do not stop to consider how far their belief in the necessity of one *incurable* religion (the SEMPER EADEM, fascinating, and fallacious words), is consistent with the knowledge of human nature, or practicable in its practice. But abstracting, as we do all religious, consideration, in subjects purely political, we request them to keep as much

as possible their religion to themselves, and they will get still faster forward in their pursuit of a due share of political power. We have the same right, and we think a better privilege to call it *PROTESTANT Ireland*, than they have to call it, exclusively, *CATHOLIC Ireland*. Let it be ever, and only known as *IRISHMAN'S Ireland*, and that will be a designation sufficiently descriptive, without throwing over the *whole country*, any encroaching denomination, or subdivision of christianity. We neither wish for *exclusive catholicism*, nor for *exclusive protestantism*, either of which is, no doubt, ready and willing to disguise political domination under the pretext of a necessary religious ascendancy; and we deprecate a certain disposition we cannot help observing, of mixing and confounding politics with religion, a most deceitful and dangerous propensity, which gradually leads to proselyting, and from thence progressively to persecution.

The following sentence, in the latter part of it, has somewhat of this tendency; and we think might have been omitted, in the prospectus of a periodical *political* publication. "By the religious acceptance of the term Catholic, we mean the defence and support to the very utmost of speech, and life, of the pure and rightful authorities, from whom the religious Catholicism of Ireland emanates, that is to say, the Catholic church in Ireland, the only portion of European Christendom, in which those three illustrious, propositions concur; that to this day, it has neither varied its faith, nor been dislodged from its soil, nor silenced by the fraud or force of tyrants."

In short, we relish every thing that would *include* Irishmen of all persuasions in the constitution, but nothing of an *exclusive*, and *exclud-*

ing nature or tendency, not even an exclusive Catholic News-paper, which may dissociate the minds of fellow citizens, by an undue and untimely glorifying of one religious persuasion, and the consequent unjust undervaluing of others, who believe in the same God, and trust in the same redeemer. Instead of a separative system, we wish for a consonance of the protestant and catholic in the cause of *Irish* emancipation, and instead of secluding itself in exclusive publications, the Catholic MIND would be much benefitted by *travel*. By going abroad in our common country, it would learn the value of other modes of faith, without undervaluing its own; and by forming a just estimate of human nature, prepare itself for the modest, and moderate enjoyment of that emancipation which it now pursues with becoming ardour, but the possession of which would prove a vial of divine vengeance poured out upon the nation, if used at any future time, to set up one political or religious dominancy instead of another.

The Catholics have had a long apprenticeship of suffering from the improvident and iniquitous policy of past times, and thus have been severely lessoned into the uses, and abuses of liberty. Of late years they have, however, been much indebted to the liberality of protestant genius and literature, and on many accounts, we think they should not cease, most carefully, and unremittingly to cultivate this liberal turn of mind, particularly in Great Britain, where poison has been so long distilled into the public ear on the Catholic question. It is not for us to point out the different means of accomplishing this end, but we will venture to suggest whether the judicious and well discriminated distribution of MEDALLIONS, with devices and inscriptions elegantly expressive

of CATHOLIC GRATITUDE to PROTESTANT LIBERALITY, might not be a delicate, way of discharging a debt, not to be repaid by that sort of remuneration, which makes both parties suspected of selfish purposes, but more honourably compensated by an adoption into this new ORDER OF MERIT, instituted by and for the people. A subject of this kind would be well worthy of the consideration of the Catholic committee, or if such things must always be conceived, and brought forth in the midst of eating and drinking, we see no good reason, why, at their next festive meeting, an EMANCIPATION CLUB, should not be formed, bottomed on a broader and more solid basis, than that of the defunct Whig Club, where the Protestant and Catholic should sit alternately, and a Catholic and Protestant chairman be elected in their turn. Whatever may be the fate of this proposal, under the administration of Mr. Pole, we do not hesitate to dissuade the Catholics from resting entirely on *their own efforts*, whether literary or otherwise, in the maturation of their business. If ever this business should become purely, and exclusively Catholic, let them depend upon our prophetic words, *it will fail*. It is truly a Protestant as well as a Catholic concern, and it is their duty to prove it such, by their cordiality, their open and generous confidence, and their unceasing endeavours to conciliate every branch of the protestant community either here, or in Great Britain. We, as protestants see no reason for not subscribing to what once was the Catholic motto.—“*Pro Deo, Rege, et Patria Hibernia, unanimes.*”

A plan of systematic deception has long prevailed in the manner of conducting the periodical press. Hence great caution is necessary in giving credit to the reports circulated in the newspapers. Conducted

as they are at present, they are powerful engines in the hands of government, most of them being either directly or indirectly under bad influence. Some are directly in the pay of the treasury, others more remotely, by being in some especially favoured with the insertion of the proclamations of government. Timidity influences others, when they see that every exertion is used by severity of prosecution to terrify those who cannot be bought. When untoward events can be no longer concealed, and they are at length avowed, they are often accompanied by a set off of some fallacious account, ramped up for the purpose of turning off public attention, or raising false hopes in another quarter. Falsehoods are fabricated at some principal workshop in London, or in certain cases imported from the continent, the manufacture of agents kept especially for the purpose at Lisbon, Cadiz, Hamburgh, &c. Hence we have the numerous letters from the armies, the absurd paragraphs in foreign journals, the accounts of the starvation of the French in Portugal, and other tales of equal authenticity. The people are duped, and one lie succeeds another. Provincial papers give a ready currency to those unauthentic rumours, and a race is run by the respective proprietors, who shall succeed best in securing the largest share in the favours of government. One of the latest of those rumours is the frequently repeated story of a rupture between Russia and France.

Perhaps some ministers may be so foolish as to have emissaries at work to stir up another continental coalition. It is not probable they will be able to succeed. Former experience may deter the northern powers from trying another fatal experiment; but if such plans succeed, and Alexanders should once more

meet in hostile array the legions of France with the hordes of Russia, there is no good ground to believe that the issue of another coalition would be different from the events of former ones; France would be further aggrandized, and Russia weakened, if not totally prostrated.

But George Canning in a late speech, has given us a clue to unravel these crooked plans; "The chances of war may do something for us!"—Alas! thus have statesmen gone on from year to year, trusting to chances, which have in the end almost entirely turned against them. They have been unsuccessful and desperate gamblers, doubling the stake, and still losers. Britain has through bad policy been eminently disappointed in her schemes, but proud under misfortunes and preserving, hauteur in adversity, she still exposes herself to ridicule by the arrogance of her pretensions, and what was badly brooked in the plenitude of her power, is now still less likely to be patiently submitted to by nations, who view her as fallen from her high estate. Whether they are mistaken or not in their suppositions yet remains to be demonstrated by time, but if a wiser system is not speedily adopted, and if reform in all departments is longer neglected, the prospects are not promising.

The negotiations with the United States of America are interrupted, if not broken off by the departure of the American ambassador, who was ordered to return, if certain conditions were not complied with. It is difficult to calculate how America will act, pressed as she is by the schemes and pretensions of the two great belligerent nations. If France without reserve give up her decrees, as far as America is concerned, the scale will probably preponderate in favour of France, against Britain, who refuses to rescind her orders

in council, or give up the claim of enforcing fictitious blockades, or searching neutral vessels for British seamen. The people of the American States unwisely suffer themselves to be divided into parties, one in favour of France, and the other of England, and in their free government, a distraction of counsels is thus produced by the popular voice taking opposite sides. Unlike some older governments, *the rulers appear to be more enlightened than the people.* They act so as to be neither of the French nor English party, but of a party purely American, and with whom American interests have a decided preponderance. They are much perplexed to steer clear of the impositions of the European nations, and to hold up the balance of justice, between the contending parties at home. Theirs is a situation of great difficulty.

Two millions* are this year voted for the support of the Portuguese army. In former years only one million had been granted. In almost

* These two millions at the present price of bullion, it is said will cost an addition of £600,000 before they can be remitted to the continent. The agents of government are now purchasing rather on lower terms, by buying guineas on the Change of Belfast, but this supply cannot last long. The shock of the finances is advancing by hasty strides. The bank-tokens in England are raised from 5s. to 5s. 6d. The monied men show no disposition to fund the whole amount of the exchequer-bills, as the chancellor proposed. Thus the loan already enormously great, and which must be made on very disadvantageous terms, is likely to be further increased, while the bank of England now exceeds their issues at this period of last year by an addition of notes amounting to £2,000,000, although they have abridged their discounts to merchants. The discount on omnium, on the last loan, has increased to 7 and 7½ per cent. This is a bad omen for the success of borrowing, under such circumstances. The Chancellor of the Exchequer must raise money on very disadvantageous terms.

every case, we have to meet increased expences with diminished means.

The war seems now turned from active exertion and fighting, into a contest between the hostile parties, of long suffering and patience, under various privations. Frederic used to say he made more conquests by his soldiers legs, than by their arms. The appeal seems now to be made to the *stomach*, and the trial is, which of the parties can best bear hunger. Indeed the martial war is now become merely a supplement to the commercial war, and if it be practicable for Bonaparte, (of which there is great reason to doubt) to keep the whole European coast, as it were *iron-bound*, against the entrance of all articles of English manufacture, or colonial produce, for a length of time, the temporary assistance given by government will not prove essentially serviceable, in the event, to the commercial interests. It will only alleviate their distress for a time without reaching the source of the evil.

Indeed the great difference between our plans, and those of the enemy are, that his appear to be systematic, and have a constant relation to a *long future*, while those of our ministry are fortuitous, and desultory, depending on the chapter of accidents, upon a successful intrigue in foreign courts, upon "*existing circumstances*," and measures of the day, against a deep laid scheme of diverting the customary channels of commerce into a new direction, which certainly will require time to take effect, but on that very account, may become the more perduring. It really appears that the war, as now carried on, is made a mere stalking horse, a masque for the more effectual prosecution of the plan for establishing European, upon the ruin of British

trade; and that the military part of the business is to use their language, only a "demonstration." It is like a false attack upon the Bastion, while measures are taken to cut off the River, that gives a supply of water to the garrison, and inhabitants of the place. The war upon the peninsula is, whatever Lord Wellington may think, a mere puff of powder, when compared to that internecine and international war of which we are speaking. Such paragraphs as the following appear to us more formidable than a park of artillery. "The produce of a duty on cotton wool imported, goes to a fund for the payment of additional bounties on the culture of cotton, indigo, and sugar within the French territory."

Whatever the ephemeron minister may say, with all the emphasis of office, on the firmly established character of commercial Britain, history, or large experience proclaims, that commerce is a mutable and inconstant ground of national prosperity. History with her telescope, speculates through whole centuries. A microscopical minister magnifies the present moment into something prodigious, nor can extend beyond it, his sphere of vision. Foreign commerce, that depends on foreign consumption, must hang on the will, or, in other words, rest upon the mercy of the consumers. Internal trade accumulates a stock of labour; in peace, happiness; in war, defence. Commerce, without a due circulation of benefits throughout the mass of the people, produces such partial accumulations of wealth, as begets an overweening pride, and self-sufficiency; an impotent and vain-glorious desire of great undertakings, the stimulation of an intoxicated brain, and a corrupted heart; and then, when the top-heaviness begins to totter, an astonishment arises, how

the centre of national stability could ever have been placed on a line that falls so far without the base.

One of the rules of the Indian Vedam is to distinguish between what is lasting, and what is perishable. Surely to a retrospective eye, history has shown awful lessons, even in modern times, of the precariousness, and unsettled nature of external trade, its fickle fortunes, its shifting splendors in the fate of the Italian states, of Geneva, and Florence, and Venice queen of the Adriatic; of the Hans towns, of Antwerp, and recently of Holland. To the prospective eye of the sagacious politician, who does not bound his selfish calculations by the measurement of the lives at present in being, all the nations in the globe will appear in the same light, as a number of individuals in the same town, a few of which will for a single generation, outstrip the rest in activity, extent of trade, and productive returns, while perhaps one banking Behemoth appears to them all, the biggest born of earthly traders; yet pass but a few, short, fleeting years, the old merchants give place to new competitors, and monopoly, instead of being heaped up as a compost, is spread out as a manure, diffusing the means of happiness, while it scatters fertility.

Where a genuine public spirit inspires a country, no misfortune can bring on despondency. Where a commercial spirit is the vital spring and solely agitates and interests the whole mass of people; we naturally turn to the experience of history which exalts and enlarges the intellectual horizon, for instances of the *migratory* disposition of commerce, and the precariousness, and insecurity of its showy, but unsubstantial independence.

A very numerous meeting of the inhabitants of Westminster have voted an address to the Regent,

which, and the resolutions of the meeting are placed among the documents. The address from the pen of Major Cartwright, is an energetic representation of the situation of the country, occasioned by the want of Reform, and the overwhelming influence of the system of Borough Mongers, invading both the regal and the democratic parts of the constitution.

THE writer of the remarks in some late retrospects, on the subject of the *Regium Donum*, has read the two letters by A. Z. and Simplex, published in this number, without any conviction being produced on his mind, that his former assertions were erroneous. He is friendly to the principles of dissent of the Presbyterian church, and sincerely wishes that this body may maintain its independence, but he is hostile to a connexion, in any shape or degree, between church and state. For obvious reasons, he declines to accept of A. Z.'s invitation to name instances of individual tergiversation among presbyterian ministers. The law of libel is often resorted to in the present day, and truth is adjudged to be a libel: besides, he would consider that he acted unjustifiably, if in making observations on a general subject, he converted his remarks into personal satire. A. Z. admits that to be entitled to receive the *Regium Donum*, loyalty should be a condition. It is well known what idea governments attach to this word. By loyalty they mean obsequiousness to their measures. The writer of the remarks is willing to let the matter at issue, go at once to the verdict of the country, without further remarks on his part, except to mention, that the hint of the thirteen or fourteen thousand pounds distributed among presbyterian ministers not-adding essentially to the

burdens of the public, reminds him of a story he met with, many years ago. A number of boys broke into an orchard, and carried off the fruit of a cherry-tree. One little boy on being caught, pleaded that he might as well, take a few as another, for all would have been carried off. Thus it fares with the public. The higher placemen like the bigger boys, carry off the greater part, the less strong take what they can snatch, but the people who are the rightful owners, lose all the cherries.

DOCUMENTS.

COMMERCIAL CREDIT.

Report from the Select Committee on the State of Commercial Credit, laid before the House of Commons, 6th March, 1811.

The Select Committee appointed to enquire into the state of commercial credit, and who were directed to report the same as it should appear to them, together with their observations thereon from time to time, to the house, met, and examined a variety of witnesses; and have agreed upon the following report:—Your committee directed its attention to three points;—*First*—The extent of the difficulties and embarrassments which are at present experienced by the trading part of the community:—*Second*—The causes to which the same should be ascribed;—and,—*Third*—The expediency, with a view to the present and future interests of the merchants and manufacturers, and of the public, of any assistance being afforded by parliament.—Your committee found, that memorials had been presented to his Majesty's treasury, towards the latter end of the last and the beginning of the present year, stating the great embarrassments and distress which were felt amongst the manufacturers in the cotton trade in Glasgow and Paisley, and their vicinity, and praying for public assistance; that the same were confirmed by the representation of a meeting held in the city of London, on the 12th of February, which sent a deputation to wait upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer, with a copy of the resolutions adopted at that meeting. These resolutions your committee have inserted in the appendix to this report.—Your committee found, by the evidence of the

witnesses which they examined, that those statements and representations were founded on fact.—It appeared to your committee, that the principal part of the distress which was complained of, had arisen out of great and extensive speculations, which commenced upon the opening of the South American markets in the Brazils and elsewhere, to the adventures of British merchants.—Mr. Garden, the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Manufacture at Glasgow, said—“That in Glasgow and the neighbourhood the distress began among the manufacturing body of the people, and it has pressed more severely upon them hitherto, than on any other class. That it began about the month of October or beginning of November last: The cause of it appeared to him to be this; That a set of merchants in London, Liverpool, and Glasgow, conceiving that the markets of South America would consume a vast quantity of our manufactures, entered into a project of very extensive exports to those countries, and to the West India Islands, chiefly intended for the Spanish Colonies; these expeditions not meeting a ready market, those exporters have not been able to pay the manufacturers, when the bills became due; these bills were therefore returned upon the manufacturers, which created a great deal of distress—many of those houses that were the original cause of the evil are gone to bankruptcy long ago; but they have created this evil upon the manufacturers of whom they purchased the goods; that the manufacturers have their property locked up in bankrupts’ estates; that part of it will be lost no doubt, but yet that in the course of nine, twelve, or fifteen months, a considerable part of the capital will return to the manufacturers; but while they are deprived of it, they go on with the greatest difficulty; many of the weaker have been broken down. That the manufacturers of goods who have capitals will feel great distress from this cause, and it is that class of people that it would be desirable to relieve, because a little aid from government would enable them to go on with their business, though on a limited scale; but still they would be enabled to retain a certain proportion of their work people or labourers; whereas, if they get no kind of relief, they must be broken down also; and the labourers, with their families, must be left without means of subsistence. That this distress still pres-

ses very heavily upon them, the export merchants not being able to pay the manufacturers, for the goods they have taken. That in the course of trade great quantities of goods from Scotland were sold by agents in London; those agents gave a temporary accommodation to the manufacturer, but nothing more; when the merchants could not pay those bills which they had given for goods, the bills went back upon the manufacturers.—That there is this chain of connection between the manufacturing body and the upper classes of merchants, the banks in Scotland having discounted or advanced money upon those bills of the merchants for the manufacturers; those bills having gone back, the manufacturers are not able to take them up; the capitals of the banks are therefore taken up also, and they are not able to give the regular accommodation which they had been used to do to their customers. In this situation of things, too, a want of confidence arises in the banks themselves, when they see people breaking down around them, they become timid and afraid of transacting any business; a want of confidence on the part of the banks naturally creates distress among the upper classes of merchants, who are thus deprived of the usual accommodation or means of negotiation; that therefore persons who are possessed of solid property have not the same means of obtaining credit that they usually have had, and very far from it—this want of confidence in the banks makes them distrustful of every body, and the merchants have felt great inconvenience in consequence. The witness said, he understands that some of the banks at Glasgow and in that neighbourhood do little business, they will rather accumulate their capital, and wait the result of the present situation of things; this want of confidence creates general distress among very respectable merchants.—That the intercourse of credit among the merchants themselves, was much broken down by means of these circumstances, even where the merchants are solvent.—That there is considerable injury to the manufacturer, from being obliged to stop his work; his machinery gets out of order, his workmen get dispersed through the country, and he cannot collect them again, but at considerable trouble and expense; and when it is understood that his business is stopped, he loses his custom, and when he begins again, it is almost the

same as beginning a new business; it is therefore extremely important that the manufacturer should go on, though on a limited scale.—That in his opinion the demand would in a great measure come round to them again; that the home trade and some other markets are still open to them; that he has always seen in his experience of 30 years, that a glut in a market is followed by a brisk demand; for no person will supply the markets or adventure at all when they are overstocked; hence the market becomes exhausted, and of course a very good demand arises afterwards.—The markets of South America and the West India Islands are overstocked at present, but they will naturally come round, and the home trade always takes off a certain quantity, so that he had no doubt in six or twelve months this increased demand will do more than take off what is on hand now, or what will be manufactured in the mean time, which will be a very limited quantity indeed.—That if there was no particular glut in the market, from the time of the shipping of the goods, till the payment could be commanded in this country, he should conceive would be twelve or fifteen months; it may in some instances be sooner, but, generally speaking, he should conceive about that time. In some instances payments have been much quicker, perhaps by the return of the same ship; and he mentioned that there have even been instances of ships returning within four or five months.—The usual date of bills given by the merchant to the manufacturers is six or nine months, but in some cases it may be extended to twelve months; in cases where the goods are sold by an agent in London, that agent interposes his credit, and gives an accommodation to the manufacturer sooner, if he requires it, taking his chance of payment from the merchant.—That the distresses were immediately and in the first instance occasioned by the want of payment for those that were vendid; but at the same time the want of a market is certainly a part of the cause. The markets of South America having been for a time overstocked, there is no great demand at present; and even though there were a demand, in the present situation of things with the want of confidence and the want of credit, it would be difficult for the manufacturers to know to whom to sell with safety; that is chiefly occasioned by the want of payments for the goods sold: that will in some measure come round in the

course of twelve months, and then the manufacturer will have his own capital again.—That there has been a very considerable supply of this sort of manufacture sent to the peninsula, which was in a great measure with a view to their being sent to the Spanish colonies; that the same failure of payment happened in some degree in respect of those goods; as those sent to South America; that one considerable house in London connected with this trade, which stopped or made a pause within the last two or three weeks, had sent a great quantity to Cadiz; and they informed the witness, that the last account they had was, that the goods would all be sold in this and the next month, by which means they should be able to make a handsome dividend to their creditors; but their bills having gone back on the manufacturers, they are depressed in the mean time.—That there had been a great fall in the price of the manufacture; that when he left Glasgow, there were some articles of manufacture which had fallen perhaps 40 or 50 per cent.; but he understands from communications since that, the fall is greater, because the distress is become more general.—With respect to the failures that had happened, there are several houses which will probably pay very large dividends; and indeed there are several of the houses in Glasgow that he alludes to which stopped payment, have undertaken to pay their creditors in full, in a certain time; one who had more than £200,000 of bills out, has undertaken to pay his creditors in 3, 4, 8, 12, and 16 months, and probably he will do it; but in the mean time, the manufacturers cannot command a shilling of this money; that the failure of those houses, before he left Glasgow, had amounted to from one to two millions; one house (the same to which the witness alluded before) has failed since that time for £519,000, they have undertaken to pay in full.—That the failures of the export houses certainly arose from their having gone greatly beyond their capital, having exported goods to a far greater extent; but he understood many of those houses were not without capital, and some even had large capital, but being disappointed in the markets, it was found that they could not make their returns so quickly as their bills became due:—there are houses of that description in Liverpool, and some in Glasgow.

Being asked, as to the amount of failures on the present occasion, as com-

pared with those in 1793; he said, "The proportion of failures will be always something in proportion to the extent of the trade, (which has increased wonderfully since 1793); and of course the failures now are to a much larger amount than they were at that period."—Your committee having given this full extract from the evidence of Mr. Garden, have to state, that it was in general confirmed by the evidence of Messrs. L. and R. Mackerell, and Mr. Henry Fulton, *muslin-manufacturers* at Paisley; and that evidence in a great degree to a similar import was given to the committee by Sir Robert Peel. With regard to the state of the manufactures in Lancashire, he stated, that the price of goods had fallen 40, 50, and in some instances 60 per cent.: that the greatest manufacturers had been obliged to reduce the quantity of their work by one third, others one-half, and others again had been obliged to discharge their workmen altogether; and that even those which were continued in employment, were continued at a very reduced rate of wages, amounting to not more than one half of their ordinary payment—that under these circumstances great distress was felt amongst the workmen; and though there had not been any failures among the more considerable and best established houses of manufacture in Lancashire, yet that great distress and embarrassment must already be felt by many, and that some parliamentary assistance would be of most essential advantage.—Your committee think it right to refer to the returns of the export of the cotton manufacturers in the following years, to show the state and progress of the trade in this article of manufacture, up to the period when this distress began to be so strongly felt. The official value of cotton manufactures exported from Great Britain, in the year ending 5th January, 1808, was £9,846,889; in the year ending 5th January 1809, 12,835,903*l.* in the year ending 5th January, 1810, was 18,616,723*l.* and in the three quarters ending 10th October, 1810, 12,761,136*l.*—It appeared to your committee, that there had been no want of a disposition on the part of the banks in Scotland to give their accommodation; that they had liberally applied it as far as was possible; but that it was impossible they could continue their aid, as they had their capital already locked up in an immense number of bills, the payment of which was suspended.—Your committee also found, that great distress was felt in a

quarter which was much connected with this trade, namely, amongst the importers of produce from the foreign West India islands, and from South America.—That great parts of the returns for the manufactures which were exported to those parts of the world, came home in sugars and coffee; which not being entitled to sale in the home market, there were no immediate means of realizing their value.—These representations of the distress experienced in the trade of the cotton manufacturer and exporter, and from the want of market for foreign colonial produce, were also confirmed by respectable merchants and traders in London; who also stated, that the embarrassments were felt on other branches of trade, not connected with foreign commerce or colonial produce.—It also appeared to your committee, that one cause which might be considered as connected with and as at present aggravating the existing distress, was the extent to which the system of warehousing the goods of foreigners as well as native merchants, for exportation had been carried. On this point, the committee refer to the evidence of Mr. Cock, commercial and public agent for the corporation of Liverpool, and general agent to the merchants of the town; who informed the committee that,—"Since the opening of the West India and London docks, Great Britain has under the provisions of the warehousing acts, become a free port, into which foreign goods of almost every description may be brought and safely deposited, and from whence they may be exported again without payment of importation duties. This country possessing peculiar advantages for foreign commerce, the consequence of such facility to introduce goods from all parts of the world has been, that the merchants of other countries, whether neutrals, enemies or allies, have been eager to avail themselves of every opportunity of sending their goods hither. From Spain (for instance) such goods as have not been imported on British account, the Spanish merchants have been anxious to send here for safety and for sale—the same remark applies to Portugal; in fact we are now the exporters of Portugal wines to that country—while importations from Europe, not the result of a demand for them, have thus been occasioned, the markets of South America, both Portuguese and Spanish, have been thrown open to us, and the greater part of the

immense productions of those places (from which formerly we received but little property direct except bullion) now comes to fill the warehouses, and for a time to exhaust the capitals of the merchants of this country. Our conquests also have had the same tendency: in addition to the produce of the old British Colonies, we now receive that of Martinique, Guadalupe, St. Cruz, St. Thomas', &c. the greatest part of the produce of St. Domingo also now comes here. From Europe, the importations from places from which the British flag is excluded, have been immense—these causes co-operating at a period when the situation of the United States has prevented their ships from introducing into Europe that large proportion of West India and South America productions of which they would have been the carriers, the effects have been more sensibly felt by our merchants."

—Your committee, upon the whole, think themselves justified in stating, that the embarrassments and distresses at present experienced, are of an extensive nature; and though they are most severely felt amongst the manufacturers and merchants in those trades which have been more particularly specified, yet, that they are also felt in a considerable degree in some other branches of trade; but they have the satisfaction of stating, that from the evidence, of a very extensive and experienced merchant, it does not appear that they are felt in the woollen trade, to such an extent as would at all justify a call upon Parliament for any extraordinary relief.—That your committee are warranted in stating, that there appeared a general concurrence of opinion amongst those of the witnesses who were examined, as to the expediency of affording parliamentary relief in the manner in which it was afforded by the issue of Exchequer Bills in the year 1793, although there was some difference as to the extent of benefit which might be expected to be derived from such relief. And your committee state it to be their decided opinion, that although there are many circumstances at the present time affecting the state of trade and commercial credit, which make a great difference between the present period and that of the year 1793; yet the distress is of such a nature and extent, as to make such parliamentary relief highly expedient and necessary; and that it promises to be productive of extensive and important benefit; that although in many cases such

aid may not be capable of effectually relieving the persons to whom it may be applied, from great losses arising from the state of circumstances; yet by affording them time gradually to contract their operations, to call in their means, to withhold from immediate sale articles which at present can fetch only most ruinous prices, and to keep up the employment of their machinery and their workmen, though upon a very reduced and limited scale; it will divide and spread the pressure of this distress over a larger space of time, and enable them to meet it with consequences less ruinous to themselves, and less destructive to the interests of the community.—That your committee referred to the manner in which relief was afforded in the year 1793, and have found that the provisions of that measure which, as appears by the report of the commissioners appointed on that occasion, was attended with the happiest effects, and the most complete success, are embodied in the Act 33 Geo. III. cap. 29, and the committee are of opinion, that similar provisions should be adopted with regard to the relief at present proposed; that the amount of exchequer bills to be issued should not be less, nor would the committee recommend that it should be more than £6,000,000, and that, considering the probable date of the returns of trade from South America, a greater interval should be given for repayment than was allowed in 1793, the committee being of opinion, that the time for payment of the first quarter's instalment should not be earlier than the middle of January next, and that the remainder of the sum advanced should be required to be repaid by three equal payments, from three months to three months, so that the whole should be discharged in nine months from the payment of such first instalment.

WESTMINSTER MEETING.

TO THE PRINCE REGENT.

THE DUTIFUL ADDRESS OF THE HOUSEHOLDERS OF THE CITY AND LIBERTIES OF WESTMINSTER.

May it please your Royal Highness!

Sincerely attached to your person, as on the present occasion will be evinced, it is with a lively sensibility we participate in the sorrow your Royal Highness must feel for the cause of your having been called to your present situation.

But we trust that, by taking on you nation's cares, demanding as they now are, an undivided mind, the private griefs of your Royal Highness must be less painfully felt.

It has been, Sir, with extreme dissatisfaction that we have contemplated those habitual suspensions of the royal authority, some of which have been but recently brought to light, that have been so derogatory to your Royal Highness, and are in their nature so portentous: but we trust, that a repetition of such suspensions, which we know not how to distinguish from usurpations, will be rendered impracticable.

Independent of these constitutional proceedings, there had been much cause of complaint, if not of suspicion, in the obstacle interposed by ministers for preventing the accustomed access of the subject to their sovereign: wherefore, Sir, in now beholding your Royal Highness Regent of the kingdom, we are inspired with a cheering hope; because his Majesty, should his health be happily restored, will assuredly, through the faithful report of your Royal Highness, learn the true condition of his kingdom, and the real sentiments of his loyal and aggrieved people.

In habitual suspensions of the Regal Functions, it is not a mere token we discover whence to infer the existence of evil. In breaches of the constitution so flagrant we do not witness mere slight indications of something wrong; but they are so many proofs that a borough faction, trampling on the rights of crown and people, triumphant reigns. In the example now fresh in all our minds, the indignant nation hath seen, in full display, that faction's odious pretensions and your Royal Highness has been made sensible of its detested power.

Thirty years ago it was declared by Sir George Saville, in his place in parliament, that the commons house was no more a representation of the people of this kingdom, than it was of the people of France.

The seats in that house, both for close and for open boroughs, are notoriously marketable. One of them as we are credibly informed, was once bought by a French king's mistress, for her English correspondent, in time of war; and it stands on record, that at another time these seats were purchased wholesale by the Nabob of Arcot, for his intriguing agents. None then, Sir, can assure us, that at this day a whole

troop in the pay of a Napoleon may not sit and vote in that house.

The inveteracy of this disease was made manifest to the whole world, when, in the case of Mr. Wellesley, Lord Castlereagh, and the present minister, Mr. Perceval, all accused of trafficking in those seats, not only no punishment ensued, but the traffic was vindicated, and for this extraordinary reason, that it was become as notorious as the sun at noon-day.

Here, Sir, is the cancer of the state. With a house of commons rapidly becoming, by the virulence of this pest, a mere mass of corruption, death must ensue, unless the cancer to its last fibre be eradicated, and free parliaments restored.

For such a restoration, your Royal Highness must perceive that no talent, no wisdom, no virtue in ministers, can become a substitute.

Proud and light men have, indeed, in all ages, pretended to such a skill; puffed up with a conceit of their own sufficiency, they have been abundantly ready to dispense with the constitution. But did not all history proclaim the absurdity of such pretensions, that absurdity must, to every reasoning mind, be self-evident.

The nature of the nefarious system of government which hath grown with the growth, and strengthened with the strength of the borough faction, is ascertained to us by long and calamitous experience. Its root is tyranny, its fruit is ruin. It scourged America into resistance: Ireland it tortured into rebellion. It disinherited your Royal Highness of many and flourishing states; and the numerous seamen of those states it alienated from the English navy.

It was this system of government which peopled our prisons with innocent persons, for the malignant prosecution of whom ministers took shelter under a bill of indemnity, passed by themselves and their abettors.

It is this system of government which hath pauperized more than a million of our English fellow subjects, and which daily augments their number.

It is this system of government that covers our once free land with bastilles and Barracks; that brands the millions of English as cowards, needing foreign soldiers for defenders; and that brings back upon us the doctrines and the cruelties of the star chamber.

This system of government, by a blind

insatiation, confers on French and other foreign Roman Catholic officers what it offensively refuses to native Irish, filling the hearts of the Irish millions with indignation and resentment:—combustible passions which, so pent up, cannot without terror be contemplated.

This system of government, hath in the end, demonstrated the wickedness, and exposed the folly of those, who, to tear from the people all hope of a just Reform forced them to an unjust war: For, after hundreds of millicas have been insantly squandered, after rivers of blood have been inhumanly shed, after the nation, foiled and disgraced, has been reduced to a forlorn hope—after all this has been brought on us by corrupt, short-sighted, and tyrannical men, for putting down and treading under foot parliamentary reform; it is at length seen, that in this Reform, and in this Reform alone, national salvation can be found.

During the machinations for fettering your Royal Highness, and bringing you under the galling yoke, you must, Sir, have noticed the faction's base ingratitude to the King your father, for whom, with the deepest hypocrisy, they affect the greatest devotion. That system of government which has been our bane—that system of government which had its origin in the worst corruptions, and the most treacherous counsels of ill-advisers, they made no scruple to call the King's own system of government.

There is no view, Sir, of the nation's affairs, but must impress on your Royal Highness a conviction of the pernicious consequences of a system of government founded on a house of commons in which the people are not represented.

Wherefore, the subject which, above all others, for its paramount importance, we are anxious to rivet on your thoughts, is that which your Royal Highness has found to be uppermost in our own—Parliamentary Reform.

It being our confident hope that the present session will not pass away without a renewal of parliamentary efforts in that cause, we believe, Sir, that a public knowledge of an earnest desire on the part of your Royal Highness for the success of those efforts, would assuredly cause their early triumph.

Convinced indeed we are, that whenever the Crown and the Subject, for mutual self-preservation, shall make common cause in pursuit of this indispensable ob-

ject, the odious, the intolerable usurpation of the borough faction, smitten by the united rays of the law, the constitution the throne, and the nation, must, like a noxious exhalation, melt in air, and disappear.

Against all counsel for protecting or fortifying the borough faction, who are hostile to your every interest, we trust your Royal Highness will be on your guard. Ours, Sir, were we entitled to offer it, would be counsel of another complexion; as will be that of all those loyal and faithful advisers, whose desire it is that your Royal Highness should escape the toils of the wicked, that you may not be unconstitutionally shackled, and made to appear the patron of a faction, instead of standing free, dignified, independent, and illustrious at the head of the nation.

Once, Sir, identified with the borough faction, farewell to greatness! Think, Sir, of a prince of Asturias and a Godoy! Surrounded by the toils of that traitor, the unhappy Prince became instrumental in undermining his own reversionary throne, and accelerating the downfall of the kingdom of his inheritance. In the borough faction, Sir, behold an army of Godoys!

It is this faction, Sir, ostentatious of its usurped dominion, which, for several months together, you have now a second time seen carrying on government over the English nation, without either a King or a Regent; thus striking in public opinion at the utility of the Kingly office; thus striving to deepen the root of their own usurpation, and to accustom the people to the most extravagant exercise of their hateful power.

Wherefore, Sir, we repeat, that it is a faction which alike tramples on the rights of Crown and People. All but the name of King this insolent faction hath usurped. Nay, Sir, with a King's authority it is not content: the faction aims at nothing short of being despotic.

When, therefore, your Royal Highness with us shall be convinced, that the usurped authority of the faction is utterly incompatible with "the safety, honour, and dignity of his Majesty, and the welfare of his people," which, as Regent, "you have sworn you will in all things, to the utmost of your power and ability, consult and maintain," that conviction in the mind of your Royal Highness will be to us a source of the most animating hope, and a presage of recovered Rights and Liberties.

Were it not, Sir, a law of nature, that

none can taste the god-like pleasure reserved to the patriot saviour, who hath not but acutely felt the pain of contemplating public wrongs and calamities, the citizens of Westminster would have to regret, that the wrongs and calamities of their country should have made the principal theme of this their first salutation of your Royal Highness, in the character of Regent.

But having not failed to dwell also with emphasis on that Reform, which is the sole remedy for the nation's political evils, they trust they have given the best proof of their anxiety that the blessings of a grateful people should await your Royal Highness; and that by all posterity your name should be venerated as long as human records shall endure.

It is thus, Sir, the Citizens of Westminster give you their pledge, that, in all your exertions for saving the State, they, with life and fortune, are determined to stand by your Royal Highness.

The following Resolutions were then proposed, and unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That this Meeting think it right to make it known to the PRINCE REGENT their sentiments on public affairs particularly on the absolute necessity of a Parliamentary Reform, not only for his Royal Highness's own consideration, but in a hope also, that, in case of surrendering his charge, he may report the same to his Majesty's evil Counsellors; having, for many years past, deprived the people of this realm of access to the throne.

Resolved, That this Meeting approve and adopt the Address which has been now read.

Resolved, That the High Bailiff, together with Sir Francis Burdett, our Representative, are requested to present to the Prince Regent the dutiful Address of this Meeting.

Resolved, That the thanks of the Electors of Westminster are due, and are hereby given, to their faithful Representative, Sir Francis Burdett, for his unqualified denial of an assertion made in December last, "That the Lords Spiritual and Temporal and Commons of Great Britain and Ireland, do lawfully, freely, and fully represent all the Estates of the People of this Realm." contrary to notorious fact—a fact, and a wrong, of which the people of this Realm have so long and so constantly complained, but unfortunately without redress.

SUBSCRIPTION IN IRELAND TO INDEMNIFY PETER FINNERTY.

Information was conveyed to Peter Finnerty, that a subscription had been opened in the North of Ireland. He thus writes in reply:—

DEAR SIR,

Your kind letter has reached me, I am, I assure you, highly gratified to find that my conduct is honoured by the approbation of men of such sentiments. My exertions were such as I thought due to my cause, my country, and my character; and I had resolved so to act whatever consequences might follow. The consequences that have followed are severe enough to gratify malignity itself. The place in which I am allowed the opportunity of sleeping, is wretched, and the spirit of oppression extends to such minutiae, that I really cannot help smiling at the impotent malice which institutes such arrangements. They shall gain nothing, for I am determined to lose nothing by such a system. They may injure my health, which thank God, notwithstanding all the privations to which I am subjected, is better than it was upon my arrival—but my mind—they cannot affect.—No; the position I have taken, I am resolved to maintain. I have always thought that the advocate of liberty who shrinks in the hour of trial, does a greater injury to the cause than the most unqualified tyrant; for cowardice is the great encouragement of tyranny. The tyrant, from feeling, would conciliate from policy, if convinced of the inefficacy of coercion. Yet how strong is the evidence which Ireland affords that coercion is not the system applicable to her government.—How indocile are the knaves and fools who do not yet know us; who are not to be taught by the many impressive examples which our countrymen have afforded, that the history of the world does not present an instance of a nation so difficult to be subdued by force, and yet so easy to be conciliated by kindness. But if they will pursue their system, we must preserve our character; and let the care of every friend of liberty, be, that his conduct shall present nothing to encourage the calculation of any tyrant or to excuse the timidity of any slave. I have been and am most vigorously treated; the people of Lincoln feel very liberally towards me. The English, living out of the pale of corruption and the court,

I have always found to be good. They do not feel so soon as our countrymen, but they often feel quite as strongly and retain that feeling sometimes longer.

I thank you for the generosity of your purpose, with regard to me ;

And I am, &c.

Yours truly,

P. FINNERTY.

Subscriptions for PETER FINNERTY.

	£.	s.	d.
John Hancock,.....	5	0	0
William Drennan, M.D.....	5	0	0
Robert Tennent,.....	5	0	0
William John Hancock,.....	1	0	0
A female; a friend to Irish Patriots, 1	2	9	
James Luke,.....	1	0	0
A Friend to Truth,.....	1	1	8
James Dickson,.....	0	5	0
Peter Winnington,.....	0	5	0
John Hawkins,.....	0	5	0
John McCorry,.....	0	5	0
Michael Corrigan,.....	0	5	0
Patrick Williamson,.....	0	5	0
Joseph Weir,.....	0	2	6
Larry Bradley,.....	0	2	6
A Friend unknown,.....	1	2	9
A Friend to the liberty of the Press,.....	5	0	0
Robert McDowell,.....	1	0	0
Andrew Marshall,.....	1	0	0
Robert Ramsey, Derry,.....	2	5	6
William Tucker,.....	1	2	9
Thomas McCabe,.....	1	2	9
James Nicholson, Besbrook,...	2	0	0
Moses Dawson,.....	0	10	0
George McAdam,.....	0	10	0
John Gillis,.....	0	10	0
Joseph Smyth,.....	0	10	0
Josias Montgomery,.....	0	5	0
Hugh Fisher,.....	0	2	6
Washington Dawson,.....	0	2	6
John McLister,.....	0	2	6
William Kelly,.....	0	2	6
John Murphy,.....	0	2	6

Subscriptions are received by Robert Tennent, Belfast; John Hancock, Lisburn; and James Nicholson, Besbrook, near Newry.

If much exertions have not been used by the collectors to persuade subscribers to offer, they decline to intrude themselves, because they wish to see the people come forward in their own cause, for such undoubtedly it is. Instead of a struggle between two individuals, it is a contest on a much broader basis. It is in fact a struggle whether the liberty of the press shall

be supported in the person of Peter Finnerty. The people must now decide the question. The liberty of the press can only be vindicated by producing the conviction that the friends of free discussion will not be left unsupported. Between a shackle press, and an overbearing exertion of authority, which would prevent discussion only so far as men in power might judge reasonable, there is no difference. If the people through a fear to give offence, or from ill-judged regard to selfish interest neglect the cause of the liberty of the press, it will probably fall, and with the liberties of the people will soon follow, either to fall to rise no more, or to be reanimated with those convulsions which attend re-animation.

LIBERTY OF THE PRESS.

Crown and Anchor Tavern, London, 1811.

SIR,

The committee "requested to manage the Subscription entered into for the purpose of indemnifying and supporting Mr Finnerty" have directed me to communicate the following resolutions, and to request your co-operation.

S. BROOKS, Esq. in the chair.

Resolved, "That active means be taken for promoting the Subscription, the object of which is not only pecuniary indemnity but also, by the number of the subscribers, a manifestation of the feeling of the country, for the important service rendered by Mr. Finnerty, in his last manly and able effort to vindicate the Liberty of the Press.

"That it is desirable to have the Subscription published in the provincial papers, with the name of some gentleman in the neighbourhood added to the List of persons advertised to receive subscription; who should be requested to forward, from time to time, a list of the names and sums subscribed to the Secretary, in order to their insertion in the General List."

Annexed you have the Resolutions of the General Meeting.

Any communications addressed to me at No. 110, Strand, will be punctually attended to.

I am, Sir your obedient servant,

A. THISTLEWOOD, Secretary

MR. FINNERTY.

At a meeting, convened by advertisement in the public papers, held at the Crown and Anchor tavern, in the Strand on Wednesday, the 20th day of February 1811, SIR FRANCIS BURDETT in the chair resolved unanimously,

1st. That the late manly and able effort of Mr. Finnerty, in the Court of King's-Bench, to vindicate the Liberty of the Press, and maintain the best rights of Englishmen, deserves our warmest thanks.

2d. That in consequence thereof, and of his removal from his business and connections, by the sentence of the court to the distant jail of Lincoln, it is proper and necessary that a Public Subscription be instituted to defray the expences he has been compelled to incur by the prosecution, at the instigation of Lord Castlereagh, and in collecting evidence in Ireland, and also to provide for his support.

3d. That the following gentlemen be requested to form a committee (with power to add to their numbers), to manage the Subscription, and defray the expenses attendant thereon; and likewise to appoint two proper persons as trustees, by whom, in conjunction with the committee, the monies collected shall be disposed of in whatever way may appear to them most beneficial to Mr. Finnerty.

COMMITTEE.

Major Cartwright Mr. Worthington.
Mr. Ald. Wood Mr. Chatfield.
Mr. P. Mallet

Resolved unanimously, That the thanks of this meeting be given to Sir Francis Burdett, for his able and judicious conduct in the chair.

A. TRISTLEWOOD, *Secretary.*

Subscriptions are received by E. Langley, esq. Edgware Road; Thomas Hardy, 167, Fleet Street; Mr. Miller, Skinner St. and at the Bar of the Crown and Anchor, Tavern, Strand.

A request to insert the following Prospectus is most readily granted.

AN INDEPENDENT PAPER.

On Tuesday 30th day of April, 1811, will be published the first number of
THE DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS.
Days of publication—Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

PROSPECTUS.

THE candidate for public favor has been accustomed, since the earliest time, to do the honors of his own introduction. This task he generally accomplishes, by exalting his pretensions, by avowing his party, and by remarking on those whose competition he fears, or whose possession he seeks to disturb. Of this old established system, the conductors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS will but adopt the part of frankly

stating their views, and of confessing their principles. Beyond the merit of this declaration, they will not feign titles to notice; nor prematurely urge any claim which they may possess. As to labouring to enhance this merit, by a contrast with existing prints, they have only to mention, that their plan supersedes, and their opinion rejects so paltry and invidious an aid.

But still for him who comes forward soliciting the attention of a community, and appealing to its free choice, it is not so properly a right, as it is a duty, to manifest, at the very outset, the leading maxims he will follow; to what object his ambition impels him, and by what motives and what length of enterprize he will venture, in the pursuit. He is called upon to furnish a standard, by which his future services shall be ascertained, or his apostasy may be reproved: but, most of all, he should proclaim by what rules and limits he will administer that power, into which he desires to be admitted. These observations, always important, apply with supreme force to the conductors of a public print, of which the range must be either widely beneficial, or widely desolating to society. A free Press, honestly and purely employed, if popularly supported, is the proof of a nation at once independent and good. It hastens the march of civilization by its rapid facilities of intercourse; it arms the spirited morality of a people, in defence of the most humble right that may be assailed by the greatest power. This same freedom, when venally usurped and brutally misused, does nothing less than transfer the sceptre of power and the authority of opinion, from the laws, and from the virtuous, to the hired exterminator of both, and, with both of these, of all that they shelter or ennoble. An unprincipled Press is a common poisoner of the necessary elements to liberty and life, of the circulating air and public water springs. It feigns a thousand crimes, and it exasperates all miseries: it stands as the ready handmaid of decried, incapable men, to avenge their bad cause upon mankind, by demolishing all character, because for them it is lost, and by undermining all eminence, because for them it is unattainable.

The proprietors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS are willing and anxious to make it known, that the complexion of their print shall be CATHOLIC in every reasonable sense of the word, political, patriotic, religious. They add, that their mo-

tives of decision in this respect, are not only beyond the consideration of present success, but are above all selfish views, and all possibility, as they trust, of compromise or change.

Best the fairness of this acknowledgment should be misunderstood, and their principles be accused of bigotry, which is a malignant selfishness, connecting itself with religious opinion, capriciously adopted, the conductors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS will state, that, by the political sense of Catholic, they exclusively mean that comprehensive and humane justice, which pleads imperiously, not for the Irish Roman Catholic cause alone, but, for that of every human being who is capable of social freedom, and is ready for social offices; that, by the *patristic* sense of the word, they understand the peculiar application of this justice to the Irish National cause, as such: by the *religious* acceptance, the defence and support, to the very utmost of speech and life, of the pure and rightful authorities, from whom the religious Catholicism of Ireland emanates; that is to say, the Catholic Church in Ireland, the only portion of European Christendom, in which these three illustrious properties concur; that to this day it has neither varied its faith, nor been dislodged from its soil, nor silenced by the fraud or force of tyrants.

In the fulness of honest ardour, or the delusion of a favourite object, the conductors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS, may possibly overrate the importance of their design, when they consider it an undertaking salutary to the commonweal. The general feeling, however, in Ireland, has intimated that they are stationed on a post never heretofore properly manned, and seldom defended. To this post they will adhere to the last; and, if perseverance can do aught with humble means, they fear not even the catastrophe of a forlorn hope to Catholic Ireland.

A few words will be enough to represent the advantages which as well Protestants as Catholics will derive from a paper authentically Catholic. It would be indecorous and ungrateful to undervalue the generous interposition of other Irish prints, occasionally shown in behalf of our cause. Far from such ingratitude, the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS will use its first endeavours in exercising hospitality, and proving its gratitude to these liberal publications. But however grateful the conductors of the DUBLIN EVEN-

ING EXPRESS feel for such exertions, they cannot admit that they have been, or could be adequate to a triumphant defence of the Catholic cause. They were the production of minds necessarily prejudiced, to a certain degree, against us, and so far deficient in a thorough acquaintance with our principles, as to have frequently sunk beneath the torrents of sophistry, and ridicule; of abuse and fabrication unremittingly issuing from presses subsidized to slander and put down the great cause of Ireland. We have been defended by our Protestant friends on such grounds as our pride and the justice of our cause must reject. Our honoured allies have cast the shield over us, as in pity; protecting us rather as culprits seeking forgiveness and adoption, than as men entitled to the rights of liberty and nature; without always remembering from what height we fell, and for what cause. It would seem as if the Irish Catholic were some stranger cast fortuitously on our shores, and claiming as a boon, his naturalization. This idea seems to have struck its roots so deeply into the mind of the Protestant, that he habitually considers our emancipation, rather as a matter of favor than of restitution and indispensable justice: so that of Protestant liberal prints, as well as of Protestant liberal statesmen, some of the most courteous have latterly advocated our cause, under the condition that we shall purchase our freedom; and that too, at the expense of the best interest of our religion.

Another and perhaps a more sensible advantage will redound to the public good, from the open and marked expression of Catholic sentiment. Believing as they do, that there exists a mass of latent knowledge amongst the Catholics of Ireland; and that to call forth this intelligence, nothing more is wanted than opportunity and invitation, the conductors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS, flatter themselves that from the pages of their journal, some happy light may dawn for the reconciliation of all honest parties, in the hallowed temple of *British Freedom*, and that the long reserved destinies of good old Catholic Ireland, will at last issue forth in mightiness to save the Empire: and in saving the Empire, to achieve perhaps the deliverance of the christian world.

An object dear to the feelings of the good, and therefore not only dear, but most important to the conductors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS, is the *unmistakable*

of all parties and families in our common country. This unanimity is only to be obtained by adhering to some fixed point of authority, or fixed principle of action.—Under this conviction and feeling, we incline strongly to the necessity of pursuing the Catholic cause, by the legal and manly course of appeal to the imperial legislature.

The conductors of the DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS, are not so far presuming on their own zeal or project as to imagine, that the execution of their idea will keep pace with its grandeur. They are fully sensible, that it will fall short of their ideas of performance, how much more of their wishes! Yet to this much they freely will stand pledged, that they will endeavour sincerely and with clean hands that the Catholic cause, if not advanced, shall not be encumbered for their profit, or by their crimes: that they will neither abet oppression by declamations against riot, nor disease the humblest and most valuable class, by suggestions of mutiny and rapine. They do not, after all, so far undervalue themselves, as to suppose it necessary to state, that from the impurity of libel, and of private revenge, their print shall be ever free.

The selections from British Newspapers shall be made impartially, and solely of articles which demand insertion. To cull out partial rumours, would be at any time unfair, but at the present would be criminal; because the average of hopes and fears is the ordinary and most impressive guide of political calculation.

The domestic correspondence shall be more abundant and better vouched for, than heretofore was usual.

Of literature and science, as well indigenous as transmarine, the conductors hope, from their arrangements to be able to present the earliest representation.

Such are the titles which The DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS submits to Irish patronage. If meritorious, they command encouragement: if judged unworthy or unacceptable, they are, notwithstanding, such in the mind of the conductors, as will save their own disappointment from self-reproach, and from the ignominy of defeat: for the Proprietors of The DUBLIN EVENING EXPRESS consider the present address, as the argument of a struggle in behalf of a great, good, and latterly betrayed cause. Should they be repulsed by public favour, they will not despond for the country. They are faith-

ful Irishmen—"But Sparta has many better sons."

The first Number of this Paper will be published on Tuesday the 30th of April, at No. 2, Church-lane, College Green, Dublin. The Conductors beg to solicit the support of the Catholics of Ulster, in favour of a Print established on the avowed principle of supporting the claims and upholding the character of the Catholics of Ireland. Subscriptions will be received by Mr. H. Murney, Ann-street, and by J. Smyth, 115, High-street, Belfast.—Terms, £1 2 9 for four months, to be paid in advance.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

Annual Report from a general meeting of the Governors of the Dublin Weekly and Daily Free Schools, held at the Dublin Free School House, in School-street, the 20th of October, 1810.

THE TREASURER'S ACCOUNT WAS EXAMINED, AND IS AS FOLLOWS:

Income.

	£.	s.	d.
Subscriptions and Donations.....	381	11	5½
Received for Books lost and cutters sold.....	11	1	10
From Scholars of Weekly Schools.....	141	0	10
From Scholars of Daily Schools.....	182	14	0
Work done in Female School.....	9	9	2
Balance due by Schools.....	201	6	10
	£927	4	1½

Expenditure.

	£.	s.	d.
Balance from last Year.....	204	5	10½
Superintendent.....	100	0	0
Teachers of Weekly Schools.....	136	13	9
Do. Daily Schools.....	140	0	0
Stationery.....	62	9	11
Repairs.....	36	8	0½
Rent and Insurance.....	139	9	11
Coals and Candles.....	49	19	1
Printing and Advertising.....	8	9	3
Wages to House-keeper and Door-keepers.....	21	3	4
Contingencies.....	27	14	11½
	£927	4	1½

Resolved, That the committee do direct a statement of the above account to be printed, together with such report of the state of the schools, as they shall judge expedient.

WILLIAM ENGLISH, *Chairman.*

At a meeting of the committee at the School-house, on Saturday, 29th December, 1810, William Barrington, in the chair, the following Report was produced, read, and ordered to be printed, conformably to the desire of the meeting of the governors, on the 20th October last:

The numerical state of the Schools for the past year is, viz.

WEEKLY SCHOOLS.

Admitted since the commencement in January, 1786, to 29th September, 1810.

<i>Males</i>	11,238
<i>Females</i>	9,524
	<hr/>
	20,762

Admitted last year, ending 29th September, 1810.

<i>Males</i>	676
<i>Females</i>	465
	<hr/>
<i>Total</i>	1141

On the Books 29th September, 1810.

<i>Males</i>	453
<i>Females</i>	419
	<hr/>
	872

DAILY SCHOOLS.

Admitted since the commencement in March, 1808, to 29th September 1810.

<i>Males</i>	1957
<i>Females</i>	1546
	<hr/>
	3503

Admitted last year, ending 29th September, 1810.

<i>Males</i>	637
<i>Females</i>	346
	<hr/>
	983

On the Books 29th September, 1810.

<i>Males</i>	513
<i>Females</i>	224
	<hr/>
	737

It will be observed that the admissions into the Weekly Schools have not been so numerous as in the preceding year, neither are the numbers on the books so great. These circumstances, however, are not to be considered evidences of decay, as might be imagined; the former is to be accounted

for, by the past year having been one of considerable distress among the poor, and by the enlarged opportunity of instruction afforded by the Daily School, which induces many who went formerly only one day in the week, now to go six; and the latter arises from a more regular attendance having been required this year than the last, in consequence of which, several whose names had long remained on the books, but who seldom attended, were struck off. Thus there is rather an increase in the number of attending scholars, in proportion to the numbers on the books, and education, in this department, proceeds with better discipline and more effect than before.

The numbers in the Daily School, it will be seen, are nearly as great as last year, the deficiency is principally in the female part; the cause of this, it is supposed, has been ascertained, and steps are taking to remedy it. It was found that instruction in reading and writing, sewing and knitting, was not sufficient to induce the female children to attend the school for any length of time; for as they improved, a more enlarged sphere of occupation was wanting: means are taking to provide this; another work-mistress, better skilled in cutting out and directing various sorts of work, is engaged, and will take charge of that department on the first of January; and it is proposed to give the children a portion of their earnings in clothes made at the school, or in money, as the committee shall think best. This, they hope, will increase the numbers, and consequently give greater opportunity of benefiting, and more usefully fitting for society, the female children of the poor, than which no object can be more interesting.

The accustomed zeal on the part of the teachers has not relaxed, and the general good conduct of the scholars, attending both schools, is undiminished; good order, cleanliness, and proper demeanour, continued to be attended to, and to increase as the system ripens; which, with the pure spirit of christianity inculcated by the daily reading of the Scriptures will, the committee trust, be the means of amending and improving the condition of the poor, and of making them happier and better.

The funds it will be seen are deficient, notwithstanding the closest attention to economy; means are taking, however, gradually to contract the expenditure where

the interest of the schools will permit, but in the mean time the committee are anxiously desirous to be out of debt, that the portion of time and attention which they are enabled to bestow, may not be occupied in finding means of support, when all they can spare is so requisite to maintain and uphold with vigour and effect the important details connected with this great national object. They do therefore most earnestly call upon the public for support, and particularly on that part of it whose rank or fortune place them in a situation from the enjoyments of which, they are not disposed to spare any part of their time. Yet whose rank or fortune, and certainly whose happiness, are secured to them in a greater degree, by the education of the poor, than by any other way in which their means can be applied.

To visit the schools, and suggest improvements is considered a most acceptable service, and the committee intreat the well disposed may do so.

The Bank of the Right Honorable David La Touche, and Co. will receive subscriptions, and also any member of the committee, who are for the present year, as follows:

Edward Allen, *Upper Bridge-street.*
 William Barrington, *M-cath-street.*
 Samuel Bewley, *Meath-street.*
 Stephen Dalton, *Coombe.*
 William English, *Meath-street.*
 Robert Fayle, *Thomas-street.*
 Joshua Fayle, *Harold's-cross.*
 Corry Fowler, *Suffolk-street.*
 Thomas Gibbins, *Meath-street.*
 Arthur Guinness, *Rutland-square.*
 William L. Guinness, *James'-gate.*
 William Harding, *L. Mount-street.*
 John Houe, *North Great Georges'-street.*
 John David La Touche, *L. Mount-st.*
 Peter La Touche, jun. *Stephen's-green.*
 James Digges La Touche *Sans Souci.*
 George Maquay, *Stephen's-green.*
 Alexander Maguire, *North King-street.*
 Thos. Herbert Orpen, *S. Frederick-street.*
 William Todhunter, *Holles-street.*

BLEACHERS' PETITION.

The committee for managing the application of parliament have much satisfaction in stating the progress of the petition. Sir Samuel Romilly thus writes:—

Lincoln's-Inn, February 26, 1811

Sir—I received on Saturday last, the petition of the proprietors of bleachgreens in the North of Ireland, which you caused

to be forwarded to me, and I propose presenting it to the house of Commons tomorrow.—I was happy to see it signed by so many, and such respectable names.—It can hardly, I think, fail to be attended to by parliament; and nothing shall be wanting on my part to procure it success.

I remain, Sir, with great respect,

Your most obedient Servant,

SAMUEL ROMILLY.

John Hancock.

The committee likewise received the following letters:—

London, February, 25, 1811.

SIR.—I have received this morning the copy which you have done me the honour to send me, of the resolutions and petition of the proprietors of bleachgreens held in Belfast—and as I entirely agree in opinion with the gentlemen of that meeting upon the subject of their petition to the house of Commons, and consider the expression of their sentiments in this manner as a very important testimony in favour of Sir Samuel Romilly's bills, I beg leave to assure you, that the petition, and any measure in parliament founded upon it, shall have my decided support.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,

FRANCIS HORNER.

P. S. It strikes me, that it might be of great utility in assisting the discussion, that a similar petition should be sent over, to be presented to the House of Lords.

John M'Cance, esq.

Stratford-place, March 2, 1811

SIR—I received your letter—I shall feel great pleasure in giving the best support in my power to Sir Samuel Romilly's bill.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient humble servant.

HENRY PARNELL.

John M'Cance, esq.

Beardville, March 9, 1811

MY DEAR SIR—I have the favour of your letter of the 20th of February, which was sent here after me from London. I beg you will have the goodness to assure the committee to whom the care of forwarding the petition of the proprietors of Linen and Cotton bleachgreens, has been committed, that it will, at all times, make me extremely happy to be instrumental in supporting, and carrying into effect, any measure that shall appear to be

calculated to promote the security and improvement of either of these branches of manufacture. Believe me,

My dear Sir,

Your's very sincerely,

EDMUND ALEX. M'NAGHTEN.

Rev. Dr. Cupples.

SIR—Absence for a few days from town has prevented my answering earlier, the honour of your letter, inclosing a copy of the resolutions of a most respectable meeting, held in Belfast.

Pray assure Mr. M'Cance that I will not fail to attend most zealously to their wishes.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servt.

YARMOUTH.

March 6, 1811....Scymour-place.

Rev. Dr. Cupples.

The Marquis of Hertford has also been pleased to inform the committee, that they may rely on his services in forwarding any measure that tends to promote the interest of the linen manufacture.

Earl O'Neil has expressed his inclination to render any assistance to the enactment of any law, which may be considered as most likely to give an effectual protection to the property of the petitioners.

In our last number, we published the Report of the Visitors of the Academical Institution, we now insert the Report of the MANAGERS.

REPORT OF THE MANAGERS OF THE ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION.

The Managers, finding that a general Meeting of Proprietors is to be held this day, to decide on a question which they have always considered as of the utmost importance to the well being of the Institution, have thought it their duty to lay before them the following Report, that their Constituents, by being acquainted with the present state of their affairs, may have the necessary information, to come to a correct decision on the subject.

On being appointed to succeed to the board of Managers which vacated that office on the sixth day of November last, according to the act of Incorporation, they conceive that as the Proprietors had marked out no particular line to be pursued by them in the management, it was intended that they should adopt the system on which the former Managers had acted, in pursu-

ance of the Resolutions of the several Meetings, which determined, that the Schools and Lectureships should not be opened until suitable buildings be erected, and that these should be commenced immediately; they therefore made the arrangements to proceed with all possible activity in forwarding the buildings, and for this purpose, adopted measures for procuring a superintendant, properly qualified for the situation. In this they have succeeded as well as they could have wished for the interests of the Institution; having chosen from among a number of applicants a person well recommended by those who had hitherto employed him, and whose conduct during the short time they have had experience of it, has fully corresponded with their expectations.

This appointment took place on the first of January last; his first duty was to draw up an estimate, in order that the Managers might see to what extent they could go, in obeying the directions of the general Meeting of March, 27th, 1809, which directed that the buildings should be got ready, before any Schools or Professorsships should be commenced. This estimate has been given in on the 5th February, from which it appears that the part of the buildings pointed out by the Board of Visitors as absolutely necessary, in their message of the 12th December, (to which the Managers refer,) would cost £8,387. On examining the state of the funds, to see how they could answer this demand, they found that the amount of the subscriptions was upwards of £16,000; yet, notwithstanding the indefatigable exertions of the Treasurers, a considerable part of it yet remains unpaid; that the sum actually collected, including interest, amounts to £12,375; and that of this, the sum of £4,302 has been expended in the uses of the Institution, as has been stated in the Auditors' accounts, laid before the several general Meetings.

Although it is not their intention to recur particularly to proceedings which are now irrevocable, as having received the former sanction of the Proprietors, expressed by the adoption of the several reports annually laid before them, yet they cannot but notice that which relates to the building of a wall of enclosure, as it may appear to those unacquainted with the circumstances to have been attended with an ill-timed and unnecessary expense.

In the year 1808, when the Proprietors had determined in consequence of the high

price of timber, that the buildings should not proceed, it was thought that during the total stagnation of all trade connected with building, a favourable opportunity presented itself of raising a substantial wall of enclosure on more moderate terms than could have been done at any future time; they therefore built a wall round three sides of the ground, which will, they trust, be permanently serviceable: the front has been left open, because it is intended to secure it by a railing, as in other public buildings, and therefore they avoided the expense of a wall, which would have to be soon removed. In the statement of the money spent, is included the timber now on hands, amounting to upwards of £1,500; this still remains towards the building, making the funds that may be appropriated to that purpose, £9,573, a sum which, from their superintendant's report, they conceive will be fully adequate to raise such a portion of the building as appears to both the Boards of Visitors and Managers, sufficient, though barely sufficient, for the commencement of the institution, and to admit of these buildings being finished in a manner not unbecoming the purposes for which they were designed, though by no means splendid or unnecessarily ornamented. To prevent any further delay, when the season permits, they have contracted for a large quantity of brick, and sufficient cut stone, for those parts, without which the workmen must of necessity be kept idle: conceiving therefore that the sum now in hands would effectually provide for the completion of the building, without farther delay or disappointment; and that if any part of the funds were at present appropriated to any other purpose, the building, without which the Schools and Lectureships could not even be opened, must be at a stand, they thought it their duty, after mature and frequent deliberation, to give a decided negative to the recommendation of the Visitors, stated in their Report: another reason which served to strengthen them in the idea, that their decision on this point was consonant to the wishes of the Subscribers, as well as tending to the benefit of the Institution, is, that it removes the objection made by many persons to pay up their subscriptions, on the grounds that no progress has been made in the buildings; this objection being removed, the managers think that the funds will be augmented, so as to ensure a sufficiency to commence some of the literary departments, inde-

pendently of the money they hope to derive from the sources just now to be mentioned.

But while they have thus determined, as far as depends on a decision of their board, to finish such part of the buildings as is wanted immediately, they have not neglected the consideration of forming a fund for the support of the Professors and Teachers, without whom, all else is nugatory; they have, therefore, at present prepared a Petition to Parliament for pecuniary aid; the success of which, from the reception of their former application, and from the liberality of the Legislature to other similar public Institutions, they can have little cause to doubt of; and they are also conscious, from their knowledge of the public spirit and desire of literary improvement that pervades this part of the kingdom, that though at present there may be a disinclination in many to contribute when little appears to have been done, yet when it is seen that a building is ready, or nearly ready, many will gladly come forward with zeal and liberality, to put the finishing hand to the undertaking.

The building, if the proper supplies be allowed to carry it on with speed and energy—if it be not checked in its commencement, by withdrawing from it some of the funds absolutely necessary for its completion, may be finished at the termination of this year, or certainly during the course of the next; but if, when it is raised as far as one half, or two-thirds of your present funds will admit, it is to stop for want of the money which lies unemployed for payment of Professors and Lecturers, who can have no existence until they have a place to teach and lecture in, it is impossible to say when it may be finished, or when the portion set apart for the literary department is to be applied to the uses for which it was originally subscribed.

These are the motives which have induced this board to the decision now on their books; they have acted to the best of their judgment; to you it remains to decide, whether the funds, fully adequate to the completion of one object of primary necessity, shall be so employed; or that they shall be divided in such a manner as to be competent to the completion of no one part; or whether, proceeding as you have hitherto done, you will accede to the wishes of your fellow-citizens, and countrymen, in supplying them immediately with a place where their children

can be well and perfectly educated, and trust to their spirit and liberality, not to allow it to remain unappropriated to such a desirable purpose.

R. BRADSHAW, *Chairman.*
February, 21, 1811.

Died... On Monday night, March 19th, Mr. John M'Coy, proprietor of a Coach which has ran for a considerable time between Belfast and Newry. His death was occasioned by the breaking down of his Coach (which he always drove himself), near Lisburn, on Friday the 8th inst. one

of his feet was crushed in the fall, which, bringing on a lock-jaw, terminated his mortal career. Mr. M'Coy was a man universally esteemed and beloved, as far as his acquaintance extended; polite and unassuming in his deportment, and ever ready to oblige, few men have acquitted themselves so well in his station of life. He died in his 32d year. According to his own desire, his remains have been conveyed to Newry, the place of his nativity, where his wife and two infant children were interred in one grave about twelve months ago.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT,

From 20th February till 20th March.

The fine weather has at last set in, and the farmers are diligently employed in preparing for the different crops of the season; much of the land is yet to plough, and it will require great exertion to accomplish it before the usual time of sowing. The early ploughed ground which was broken up in a wet state, where the soil is inclined to clay, will probably harden so quickly by the dryness of the weather, as to prove extremely difficult to harrow, and those who are possessed of such land, ought to get it sown immediately, even if they should have to leave some of their less retentive fields untilled, for some time longer.

The long continuance of wet weather has prevented the usual quantity of wheat from being sown, which will probably induce many of the farmers to substitute barley in its place. It might probably be a good speculation to sow flaxseed in some of the land designed for wheat; the present obstructions to a commercial intercourse with the ports in the Baltic, and the unsettled state of things between this country and America, seem to point out the propriety of guarding against the recurrence of such a scarcity of flax and seed as was experienced two years ago. It is surely wise and politic in the inhabitants of Ireland to render themselves as little dependant on other countries as possible, especially for the raw material of our staple manufacture.

The prices of grain and oat-meal have not fluctuated much since last report. Potatoes are plentiful in the markets, and at a reasonable price. Hay seems rather scarce, and selling at a rate unusually high in some parts of the country. Could the occupiers of land be prevailed on to sow a patch of their farms with the Swedish Turnip for feeding cows during the winter, they would seldom experience a scarcity of fodder in spring, and the cream, milk and butter would amply compensate for the trouble and expense of the culture, whilst the superior condition of their cattle would convince them of the propriety of persevering in the system.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

Statesmen have been accustomed, when the people complained of taxes, and of the burdens of the war, to represent the flourishing state of trade, and adduce Custom-house returns as vouchers for the facts. When the people are averse from the trouble of thinking, these returns were admitted as proofs of the growing prosperity of the country. But by looking deeper, the fallacy might have been detected. Returns from the custom-house merely stated the gross amount of imports and exports, and even in some cases, as where no duties were payable, these returns were not very accurate. But at best, they only showed the quantity of goods imported or exported, without any reference to the state of the markets. The combined operation of the British and French governments, hostile in their intentions, but combining in producing similar effects, by orders in council, and decrees, had shut out British manufactures from their accustomed markets, and paralyzed the commerce of these countries. ~~Other~~ markets were sought after, and a delusive opening to trade to South America

was eagerly grasped, and immense quantities of articles sent off to a market, with the nature of which we were unacquainted, where the white population, from which a demand could only be expected, was very small, and where inveterate prejudices and suspicion in matters of trade, prevented a free intercourse. The large stock of goods im providently forced out to Heligoland lay rotting on the quays, and but a small portion gained a clandestine admittance to the European continent. Even the commerce to Archangel, and the Baltic, under the fiction of neutral colours, became more precarious, and subject to all the caprices and contradictory ukases of the Russian government, of which many of our merchants were convinced to their cost, by the confiscation of their vessels, while Sweden has latterly fallen entirely under French influence, and Denmark been rendered permanently hostile to us, by the attack on Copenhagen, and the spoliation of her fleet. Even a short period of uninterrupted trade, permitted with the United States of North America, did not produce so extensive an open for our manufactures as was expected, for the orders in council, has forced forward American manufactures some years sooner than such a rapid progress would have occurred in the natural course of events. This is the state of our export trade. Let us now view our imports.

Foreign produce was hastily brought in, not on a calculation to supply the regular wants of trade, but lest if the present opportunity were not snatched, another might not speedily be found. Hence resulted improvident importations, met by a diminished consumption, and a consequent glut of the market. The capture of the French West-India Islands, added to the stock of colonial produce, already too great during the total exclusion from the European continental market, and increased the already existing difficulties. By this train of consequences, *all resulting from the war*, both foreign trade and domestic manufacture, suffered: bankruptcies ensued, and we are now in a crisis of unexampled commercial distress.

At former periods of stagnated trade, as in 1778, 1793, and 1797, the causes were of a more temporary nature, and the country had more strength of constitution to facilitate the hopes of convalescence. Now the causes are of a more permanent nature, and are inflicted by a systematic exertion of power, and of a state of things, over which we have little or no controul, while the war continues; for France will not relax in her powerful plans to exclude from the continent of Europe, nor will America be likely to concede while we continue in hostility to the rights of neutrals, and maintain the fiction of a paper blockade, or the right to search neutral vessels. There can be no reliance placed on an adoption of more moderate counsels, or that war will be carried on in a less irritating manner. War and moderation are incompatible. Peace alone appears capable of removing the present distress.

In the mean time, few but feel some share, more or less, of the pressure of the times, from the great capitalists to the lowest tradesman, from the loan-making Goldsmiths and Baringes, down to the working hosiers of Nottingham, who for want of employment, to keep themselves from starving, are forced to submit to sweep the streets of that town, and are paid 14s. per week by the corporation for this service. There is a class still lower. It is asserted, that a million and half of paupers in England, now subsist on a parish allowance of 2lbs. of bread per week to each person. Such is the state of the once wealthy and flourishing England. We have our abundant share of misery in Ireland.

To meet the present distresses, a plan is adopted to issue six millions by exchequer bills, as a loan to the merchants and manufacturers in Great Britain. A loan on similar principles had been previously granted in Ireland. The committee of the house of commons, ground the policy of this measure on the good success, which attended a similar measure in 1793. But the times; and the causes of the distress are very different. Loans may be useful in a period of temporary stagnation, when there is reason to believe the difficulties may be speedily removed, but the loan will open no new markets, or give any fresh channels for increased consumption. It may increase the stock of manufactured goods, and thus produce an accumulation of the evils by bringing forward a greater glut in the market.

Statesmen can do little for trade but by leaving to it a free course. But wars, which are the statesman's harvest of dishonest gains, do much to derange the operations

of trade. Enlightened policy asks not money from them, but that they would allow us to have peace. Yet the people too often, like their rulers, are fond of war and are dazzled by its false glitter.

“But war’s a game which were their subjects wise,
“Kings would not play at.”—

Government are now openly by their agents purchasing guineas on the Exchange of Belfast. Will the English believe that the prosecutors of De Yonge, are themselves buying guineas for their purposes, and admitting a trade in Ireland, which they attempt to prevent in England?

The premium on guineas has risen to 10 per cent. Purchases in large quantities are now making by agents of government for the purpose of supplying the foreign stations in Spain, Portugal, Sicily, &c. The unsettled state of South America has prevented the usual quantity of dollars being received, which latterly superseded the use of guineas in the foreign services of the British army and navy. From the high prices they now bear, our stock of guineas, except the small portion which may be hoarded, will probably soon be bought up and removed out of the country.

The high premium on guineas is much lower than the price of bullion in England. Gold is now at £5. per oz. or £1. 2s. 1½d. above the coinage price, making an advance of bullion above coin of upwards of 27 per cent. Silver has also risen since the bank fixed their tokens at 5s. 6d. instead of 5s. To explain the curious phenomenon of bullion being so much higher than coin, we must recollect that guineas by being forced to circulate with a depreciated paper currency, and restricted from finding their own level, by being publicly sold as in Ireland lose their value as gold, and are reduced to the standard of the paper in the company with which they occasionally circulate. While in the shape of guineas, gold is subject to the same rate of depreciation, as the paper.

It is another of the evils of the war, that we are reduced to have only a circulation of paper, which cannot be considered as a substantial representation of our former currency; for so long as the national banks are restricted from paying in cash, bank notes are only substitutes for gold, but cannot be said either politically or commercially to represent it. The overextended issues of bank notes not grounded on payments in specie form another effective cause of the present bankruptcies. Money, such as it was, became too plentiful, and for a time aided speculation. But at length bankers found it necessary to curtail discounts, not from a scarcity of the circulating paper medium which is in too great abundance, but from rational doubts of the securities offered. In 1793, the security was good, but money scarce. These circumstances strongly mark the difference between the two periods, and the dangers which attend sooner or later on a too great extension of paper credit. At page 238, is given at full length the report of the committee on the present commercial distress. In the debate on receiving the report, it is worthy of observation, that the chancellor of the exchequer held a lower tone than usual, and as the case really required, partaking of despondency and doubt as to the efficacy of the proposed relief. How different from the former boasts of prosperity! Yet there is no room to hope, that either he, or perhaps the nation at large, is sufficiently instructed in the school of adversity, so as to produce a speedy change of the war system, although so bitter are its fruits. In making the next loan, it may be anticipated that he will encounter many difficulties from the depression of omnium, and the casualties attending on that circumstance last year.

Our domestic manufacturers languish. The cotton trade is very bad. If in comparison with the cotton trade of Britain, the outcry of distress is less, it is owing to ours never having been in so flourishing a state as theirs, and consequently the reverse is not so great, nor the comparison between present and former times, so strongly marked. The linen trade improves but little. The loss however falls more on the draper than on the manufacturer and weaver. The latter are indemnified by the high prices obtained for brown linens, and are in a better situation than the weavers of cotton, but the draper suffers by the reduced prices at which the sales of white linens are forced in the several markets.

We have one free export trade, which America permits—The ships returning to America from the northern ports of this country are filled with emigrants. When a

vessel is advertised, the places are speedily engaged. It is a natural impulse in the mind of man to seek to better his condition. America gains, and we hope Ireland does not lose by these emigrations. Those who go out leave more room for those who remain, and the state of our population is such as to be able advantageously to bear those drains. Ireland is relieved of a superabundant population, and America gains useful citizens to people her widely extended territories. It is a mistaken maxim in the system of governing, to suppose that one nation loses, when another gains.

Exchange in Belfast on London this month has been pretty steadily at 9 to 9½ per ct.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From February 20, till March 20.

Aloft in air, upborne on daring wings,
The towering Lark, ascending, hails the spring;
And pour'd from every vocal wood around,
The notes of love and vernal joy resound.

BACHELOR.

Winter at all times accompanied with melancholy sensations, has been during the late months clad in more than usual dreariness, continual hurricanes covered the ocean with horrors, and our shores presented scenes of distress, almost without a parallel in the history of any winter.

It is not without reason, therefore, that we hail the present fine weather, rejoice with the soaring Lark, and the various songsters of our groves, and view the opening buds and expanding flowers as harbingers of a still finer season.

Feb. 22...Snowdrops (*Galanthus Nivalis*) in full flower.

25...Saw a specimen of Mountain Finch or Brambling, (*Fringilla Montipingilla*) caught near Belfast during the snow.

27...Single blue and double red Hepatica (*Anemone Hepatica*) flowering.

Black-bird (*Turdus Merula*)...Yellowhammer (*Emberiza Citrinella*) singing.

March 2...Mezereon (*Daphne Mezereon*) flowering...Common Yellow Crocus (*Crocus Maritimus*), and Purple Stripped White (*Crocus biflorus*) almost full blown.

5...Frogs (*Rana temporaria*) croaking.

6...Flesh coloured Heath (*Erica herbacea*).

8...Two leaved Squill (*Scilla bifolia*) flowering.

12...White Dogs tooth Violet (*Erythronium Dent Canis*)...Sweet scented Violet (*Viola odorata*)...Nettle Butterfly (*Papilio Urtica*)...Humble Bees (*Apis terrestris*) and Female Wasps (*Vespa Vulgaris*) appearing.

14...Dwarf Daffodil (*Narcissus minor*) flowering.

17...Barren Strawberry (*Fragaria sterilis*)...Figwort (*Ranunculus Ficaria*) flowering...Field fares returned.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From the 20th February to the 20th March.

It was not until the 8th of March, that we could flatter ourselves with a termination to the very wet and tempestuous weather which has prevailed since the beginning of November. Since that time it will be seen by the diary, that the fine weather has been almost uninterrupted by a disagreeable day, and we have now reason to hope that a long period of pleasant sun-shine will make amends for the late uncomfortable winter.

February 21, 22,Very wet days.

23,Showery.

24,Fine.

25,Fine day, wet evening.

26, 27,Showery and stormy.

28,Wet.

March 1, 6,Showery; very stormy nights.

7,Snow on the hills in the morning. Fine days.

- 8,Fine.
 9,Gentle showers.
 10, 17,Fine dry days.
 18, 20,Dark, with light rain.

During the month of February, the Thermometer during the morning never higher than 44, and was not below 39°. On the 2d and 4th of March, it was as high as 50, and on the 20th it was as high as 51, and it has always been up above 36, at 8 o'clock, although slight hoar frost appears about sun-rise.

The Barometer was on the 2d of February, 28.5, on the 26th 28.6; the rest of the time it has varied from 29, which it was on the 25th of February, to the height of 30.4, which it was on the 12, 13, 14, and 15th of March.

The wind has been observed S.E. 4...S.W. 14...S. 2...W. 3...N.W. 3...N.E. 5 times, so that southerly has been much the most prevailing:

MEDICAL REMARK.

ABUSUS OPTIMI, PESSIMUM.

There is a set of people in the East, particularly in Egypt, who have long possessed the art of rendering the bites of the most poisonous serpents perfectly harmless, and who are accustomed to walk, in religious processions, with numbers of vipers coiling about their necks, arms, and bodies, playing with them all the time as with fillets of ribbon, and mocking their fury. These magicians, or physicians, are often of the female sex, and their art is said to consist in breaking the teeth of the animal, and, by that means, dispersing the poison collected at their sockets, in a small bag, or follicle. Happily this island is exempted, by the kindness of nature, from the necessity of such practitioners. But if we be free from venomous reptiles, and animal poisons, there is a prodigious number of persons, of all descriptions, ages, and sexes, who are fond of playing with the most active mineral poisons, and children even on the breast, are taught to swallow them, from time to time, till one would think they used sweet mercury for a nourishment, rather than for the cure of a disease.

CALOMEL is the popular poison at present; an active and excellent remedy, when used in proper circumstances, and at proper intervals; but the abuse of the best medicines is, in no instance, more remarkable, as the wan and woeful visage of children in the higher ranks of life, often testify. A medicine, in one or two instances, works an unexpected cure; if the patients be people of distinction, the medicine acquires celebrity, and takes the lead of its shop-mates. Calomel, a milder and more mitigated form of that most active mineral poison, Corrosive Sublimate, is at present the fashionable drug, as Bilious is, and has been, for some time past, the fashionable character of disease.

Although this medicine may certainly by its action on the biliary ducts, be well adapted to relieve from an excess of bile, and in consequence be justly entitled to the appellation of a Cholagogue, yet the frequent recurrence of this very stimulus, very certainly tends of itself to the increased secretion of bile, and adds to the permanence of the very complaint for which it operates as a temporary relief. And thus, as in all cases of habitual stimulus, the bilious habit is often created, instead of being cured. Indeed the prevalent tendency of the practice of physic to the general, and indiscriminate use of purgatives, in almost all diseases, or inclination to disease, lays a foundation, we fear for weakness in the visceral organs, of itself the proximate cause of many disorders. The excessive quantities of Calomel which have been administered even to children, in several complaints, as we find related, from time to time, in our periodical publications, are indeed so surprising, that we are really glad to find in general, such powerful prescriptions are reserved for cases almost always found desperate, and incurable, and thus less doubt is liable to be entertained that the disease, and not the drug, produced the mortal event. For the honour of physic I shall not recount the quantities of this single medicine which have been prescribed. And all that I wish to observe is, that Calomel, in small doses, is very usefully employed as an occasional stimulus to the excretories of the liver, as upon the whole of those of the alimentary canal, but that the perpetual use of it, particularly in large doses, often,

creates those diseases of the abdomen, for which it would, if well administered, at proper intervals, have proved a cure; and that a deep and lasting mercurial impression on the system, should it happen to take place in the use of this medicine, aggravates the symptoms of that chronic debility and want of tone in the moving fibres, which is the prevalent cause of disease.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR APRIL, 1811.

The Moon is on the meridian at 58 minutes past 6, being then in the line between the 2d of the Twins, and the 1st of the lesser Dog, but nearer to the latter star. At 9 she is 34 degrees, 16 minutes from the first of the Lion.

On the 5th she is on the meridian at 42 min. past 9, being directly under the body of the Lion. The 4th and 8th being considerably above her to the east of the meridian, and the 1st, 3d, and 6th at a greater distance from the meridian westward. We distinguish the 2d of the Lion to the east of the 4th and 8th, below which is the 2d of the Virgin, to which star she is directing her course, at 9 she is $40\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ from the 1st of the Virgin, and 50 degrees 38 minutes from the 2d of the Twins.

On the 10th she rises nearly with the 1st of the Balance, and passes before midnight the line before the 1st and 2d of the constellation, being by much the nearest to the former star.

On the 15th she rises in the morning over the Small Stars in the head of the Archer, her distance from Saturn being now considerably increased.

On the 20th she passes the ecliptick in her descending node, but, for obvious reasons, without an eclipse.

On the 25th, we perceive the Moon again in a very conspicuous situation, in the head of the Bull, above Aldebaran, Jupiter being on the other side, but at a greater distance from this star. The horizon, from about west to a little beyond west-north-west, will be splendid about an hour and a half after sun-set. At nine she is 41 degrees, 4 minutes, from the 2d of the Twins.

On the 30th, she is seen in the barren space between the Crab and the Lion, just above the two first of the former constellations, being thus between the small stars in the head of the Lion, and those in the head of the Hydra, but much nearer to the latter Star. At 9 she is 67 deg. 56 min. from the 1st of the Virgin.

Mercury is in his superior conjunction on the 10th, and of course will be too near the Sun to be visible before that time, except by the very keen observer; and not by others till towards the end of the month. The Moon passes him on the 23d.

Venus is a morning star, but though at a considerable distance from the Sun, she is not in a favourable position; for besides being in the 11th sign, she is on the first near her descending node, and her latitude of course is, after a few days, increasing to the south of the ecliptick. Her motion is direct about 24° , being at first to the west of the 8th of the water-bearer, and her path lies through a dreary region. On the 1st she is about 10 degrees above the horizon, and on the 25th about 8° at Sunrise. The Moon passes her on the 19th.

Mars is on the meridian at a quarter past 3, on the morning of the 1st, and at 48 min. past 2 on the 20th. His motion is direct to the 20th, when he is stationary, and of course during the whole month it is very slow, the change in the triangle formed by him, the 2d of the Scorpion, and Antares, varying little each night, particularly about the 20th. He rises on the 1st a quarter before midnight, and every night earlier, the Moon passes him on the 12th.

Jupiter is on the meridian at 10 min. past 9 in the afternoon of the 1st, and 19 minutes past 2 of the 19th, of course his duration above the horizon after sun-set decreases very fast every night. On the 1st he sets near 11 o'clock. His motion is direct through $6\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, being 1st between the Pleiades and the most western of the Hyades, and he passes the line between the Pleiades and the Aldebaran. As at the end of the month, Mercury, Jupiter, Aldebaran, and Orion, grace the western horizon, the most inattentive will feel their admiration excited in their evening walks. The moon passes Jupiter on the 25th.

Saturn is on the meridian at 7 minutes past 5, on the morning of the 1st, and at 4 on the 18th. He is stationary on the 4th, after which time his motion is slowly retrograde. We shall note therefore, that he did not enter the eastern branch, of the milky way, and that he slowly returns back towards the western, moving only about half a degree. Mars and Saturn being within 20 degrees of each other, will mark the lower heaven between the south-east and the meridian, very early in the morning. The Moon passes Saturn on the 14th.

Herschell is on the meridian at 25 min. past two in the morning of the 1st, and 5 minutes past one of the 20th. His motion is retrograde through somewhat more than a degree, approaching towards the two thirteenths of the Balance, being at the end of the month, within a degree and a half of these stars to the east of them. When on the meridian on the 1st, he is directly under the 2d of the Balance; and if we cast our eyes eastward, the 2d of the Scorpion, Mars, and Saturn, fix our attention. The telescopic observer will have his eye frequently directed to these Planets during his month. The Moon passes Herschell on the 11th.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

1st SATELLITE.				2d SATELLITE.				3d SATELLITE.							
<i>Emersions.</i>				<i>Emersions.</i>											
DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.
2	13	48	0	1	14	38	3	4	21	44	44 Im.				
4	8	17	1	5	3	55	54	5	0	8	9 E.				
6	2	45	51	8	17	13	44	12	1	46	25 Im.				
7	21	14	51	12	6	31	33	12	4	10	49 E.	* 1st Sat. continued.			
9	15	43	41	15	19	49	20	19	5	47	28 Im.	23	19	34	52
11	10	12	40	19	9	7	7	19	8	12	46 E.	25	14	3	49
13	4	41	30	22	22	24	50	19	8	12	46 E.	27	8	32	36
14	23	10	29	26	11	42	34	26	9	48	42 Im.	29	3	1	33
16	17	39	18	30	1	0	15	26	12	15	3 E.	30	21	30	20
18	12	8	16												
20	6	37	6												
22	1	6	3												

Look to the right hand*

ERRATA...Page 129, col. 1, line 38, for *linen* read *linen*—p. 130, col. 2, line 20, for *audable* read *audible*—after p. 139, the three following pages are wrong numbered; for 190, 191, 192, read 140, 141, 142...p. 171, 7th line from the bottom of the page, for *great*, read *great*.

THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

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APRIL, 30, 1811.

[Vol. 6.]

COMMUNICATIONS ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON PUBLIC FASTS.

IT should indeed be cause of real rejoicing to hear of, and to see some fruits, of a disposition in the rulers of the land, to endeavour to remove some of the many evils with which we are surrounded, and also to behold a faithful endeavour on the part of the people, for a reformation in heart and manners, so much wanting among all ranks and denominations.

But when we see, instead of this necessary work going forward, the same course of wrong conduct pursuing every day, and no hopes of amendment, the mind sickens at the melancholy prospect, and is led to enquire, "To what purpose is the multitude of your fasts?" It is in vain for any, in either public or private life, to attempt to atone for guilty actions, by assuming at stated times a devotional appearance, and conforming to certain ceremonials, whilst the heart is not made better, nor even possessing a wish to be so. It is to me a mystery, how those in power can conceive, that by setting apart a particular day, now and then, for the purpose of what is called a public fast, any good is gained or any evil averted, the people are not made better, nor is a single burthen lightened thereby. Let the eye turn almost which way it may, a gloomy scene presents itself to the view.

War, with innumerable evils in its

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train, spreading horror and devastation on all that comes within reach of its baneful breath, the fair face of nature is desolated; and the earth groans under the weight of accumulated evils arising from the horrid system. Even in places far remote from the immediate scene of action, the consequences are dreadfully felt. The ambition of the great, and the schemes they adopt to uphold their warlike measures, encompass the earth with cruelty, and torrents of human blood are shed to satisfy (and still unsatisfied) the unbounded avarice of a few.

Look to this, ye rulers, and reflect on the miseries entailed on your fellow-men, by your unwise schemes.

To what purpose is the multitude of your fasts? The face will not take, the measure will not avail, it is only adding sin to the heap already overgrown by the accumulation of evils. Think not by such means to atone for the wrongs brought on the country by the abuse of power, or for the immensity of human blood shed in the prosecution of your ambitious pursuits. Prayers mingled with the blood of our fellow-creatures, ascendeth not with acceptance, neither will the God of peace, who delighteth not in iniquity, receive such a fast as ye have chosen.

A virtuous exertion in the cause of real reformation to remove evil from the land, and to undo the heavy burdens, would be of more avail, than ten thousand such fasts as we have seen.

N. S.

M m

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

MYSTERIES DISCOVERED.*

Rumores nunc terrificos, sonitumque, metumque,
Miscebant operi, flammisque sequacibus iras.

THE wonderful discoveries that have been made of various mystical secret societies, contrived to influence imperceptibly the minds of those unconnected with them, as well as the initiated, to the ambitious purposes of their leaders; have greatly opened the eyes of the world to their artifices.

But though Professor Robinson has let us into the secret of the Freemasons, without submitting us to the painful operation usual on the occasion; though he has unveiled the dark practices of the Illuminati, and forced the Inquisitors of Westphalia to confess, yet much still remains to be done before we can entirely be freed from those evil genii, who delight in such dark conglomerations of the evil-minded and the weak: those genii who are well described by the poet and philosopher, Doctor D. in these words:

Gins black and huge, who in Dom Daniel's den,

Contrive dire mischiefs for the sons of men.

The powerful arm of the professor, in eradicating those poisonous upases, has in the operation shaken from their noisome tops some destructive seeds, which have taken root and flourished, making good the old proverb, that "Ill Weeds thrive apace;" and I have even reason to think, that at this moment there are many of their volcanic capsules al-

ready pregnant with mischief, where-in embryo evils are fast ripening for the birth.

Those, however, for the present shall be passed over to come to the relation of a fact, the disclosure of which is the principal purpose of this paper.

Who could have thought that a dark and secret society should have existed in this united kingdom, into which the piercing sight of the owl-eyed professor has not penetrated, and that while he so clearly discerned the transactions, and read without spectacles the cavern-covered and cyphered writings of the gloomy associations, so many hundreds of miles distant in Germany, that this should have escaped his learned *cat-optics*? Yet so it is; a society has existed, and carried on its machinations, not only in England and Ireland, but even under his very nose in Edinburgh, without his being able to smell out even its entity: and of this fact it is presumed no one will doubt who peruses what follows.

This society is of the inquisitorial genus. Its principal exertion is to collect the most critical and minute particulars of the private life and actions of every individual; the incredible pains taken in acquiring this information, and the numbers of agents employed in collecting it is indeed astonishing, and is of itself a proof that the society has objects in view, of vast and momentous concern; to see what those are we have scarcely need of using the spectacles the learned professor has kindly provided for us, through them however, they become so clearly conspicuous that there is no need of enlarging on their nature.

Can it be supposed that people would take such vast pains for nothing? would spend days in walking from house to house collecting intelligence, and pass nights in comparing

* The paper composed by the writer of the *Emphysalgia*, appeared in same manner once before in print, but has been revised and enlarged by its author, for the *Belfast Monthly Magazine*, who desires its insertion here for the same reason.

and communicating what they have learned, merely for amusement? So laborious an occupation is not at all compatible with that love of ease, that indolence, which so strongly marks the amusements now in fashion.—Nor is so childish and frivolous a termination to such labours to be expected from the reverend seigniors and grave matrons employed in them. If, however, men will still be so besotted to hold so ridiculous an opinion,

Credat Judeus Apella, non ego.

Fanatics may believe it, but not I.

The agents of this inquisition are of various kinds, of both sexes, and of all ranks and conditions; the principal of them hold correspondence with the head society, the grand inquisitors: those, however, bear but a small proportion to the mass, the rest are inferior agents employed by them, but who are never intrusted with the secrets of the society, and of whom only a very few know of the existence of the society, or the purposes for which they are employed, so subtle and cautious is the conduct of this dark and secret tribunal. Many worthy and well meaning people are employed in this last rank, who little dream of what they are doing, or for whom they work, or how they are eventually undermining their own peace and happiness; and little suspect what design those have, who gather the fruits of their labours, register them, and transmit them to the grand repository.

Besides the division of the agents into what may be denominated the *Cognoscenti* and the *Ignoranti*, they are also divided from their employments into *inspectors* and *familiars*.

For the first occupation a clear and steady sight is requisite, and it is in country towns they are chiefly employed: for their convenience, bow-windows have been contrived, and are multiplied in such places

to an extent, from whence we may easily conjecture the formidable numbers engaged in this business; in those windows they sit hours together, with a patience truly feline—thence mark and register, who walks with who, how often Mr. A. goes to the house of Miss D: how Miss C. smiled and flirted with Messrs. W. X. Y. and Z. successively, and various other such facts, which, though apparently of small moment, may be turned to account in the hands of skilful operators, as from dirt and ashes the explosive nitre is formed by the chemist to be the instrument of destructive violence.

But there is another class of the *inspectors* still more formidable; who being exclusively of the male sex, assume a boldness which the others cannot attain, and instead of privacy and concealment, take a pride in obtruding themselves in the most conspicuous manner. These generally frequent some coffee-house or shop; where, probably as a type, of their being such good customers that they may be esteemed the *supports of the house*, they rear themselves in a row against the front wall, propping it up with their shoulders, like the *Caryatides* in ancient architecture, each with the air of an Atlas, as if he exclusively bore the whole burden on his own back. Here they carefully watch all the passengers, discuss their characters, occupations and histories; and communicate to one another every anecdote true or false respecting them which they can recollect or invent; they only leave the mangled remains of one character, to pounce on another with redoubled appetite, and sex, age, beauty, or merit, excite no feeling, and meet no forbearance. This class is very universal, the bustle and throng of the London-streets, prevent their appearance considerably

in the metropolis, nevertheless a set of them have contrived to establish themselves in the front of Tom's coffee-house, in Cheapside, where they maintain their stand whenever the weather will permit, from day to day, and from year to year, with undismayed courage, unyielding obstinacy, and undiminished perseverance. In Dublin they are more conspicuous, and a party of them were found so very obnoxious in the entrances to the Commercial buildings, that it became necessary for the proprietors of the house to put up printed notices to prevent their meeting there, which, however, are worded with a cautious respect, that proves how well they know, and dread their power. In the country towns in England they are found in abundance, and if possible more so in those of Ireland: a band of them posted before the coffee-house on the quay in Waterford, often oblige the ladies of that city to take an inconvenient circuit rather than encounter their keen eyes, and keener tongues; and in Belfast frequent groupes of this association are to be seen in High-street, Bridge-street, and Donegall-street, watching with such zeal, that they have been known in many instances to maintain their stations beyond the hour of ten at night, when there was scarcely any one passed through the street, and darkness rendered these few almost indistinguishable.

The *familiars* are of a more extensive occupation; as the inspectors employ the organs of sight in the service, these last use principally those of speech and hearing for the same purposes; their business is to insinuate themselves into all families and societies, there directly and indirectly to find out what every individual is engaged in, and the motives of even the most trifling action;—to know why Mrs. C. has

not visited her friend Mrs. F. for the last ten days, and why Mrs. E. weaned her last child a month sooner than usual, are objects of serious enquiry; but principally what regards the sexual affections and matrimonial arrangement is the subject of their most prying investigations; therein they exert all their talents—no pains are spared; and if in little occupations people can be great, in those are they great indeed. As their names imply, they become familiar on the slightest acquaintance, and will proceed to wonderful intimacy, if permitted, on the second or third visit.

In large cities familiars have a more subordinate station, and are obliged to use greater caution, and take more circuitous means to effect their purposes; there their chief agents are ladies' maids and valets, and ladies of a certain description, with the exception of some ancient dowagers who preside at card-tables.

In country towns however, they act a bolder and more open part.—There both inspectors and familiars scarcely affect any concealment; The first boldly sits in her window all day long, and the latter at once addresses you, though an utter stranger, with the most minute inquiry, at once assuming the air of a catechist; and with all the easy impudence of long practice, and the appearance of an authority, which from long use they assume a right to, will investigate every circumstance of your property and connections, your expectations and intentions; no evasion can escape them, they return to the charge with indefatigable industry and nothing can repulse them but a flat refusal to answer, (which they have always the injustice to resent bitterly as a breach of privilege), or an entire misinformation on every subject of their inquiry; which,

discovered, is also attended with no less danger.

It is chiefly at tea parties where those agents of the society, both male and female exert their talents; and this with so little reserve, that short-sighted moralists have frequently noticed their proceedings on these meetings, as arising from envy, hatred and malice, and all uncharitableness, never suspecting in the least the depth of their designs. It long puzzled me to account for their great preference to the time of using this healthful and refreshing beverage for their operations, but I am now fully convinced that the *cognoscenti* among them take this opportunity to convey with every cup some drops of a potent liquor or essence, which bears the same relation to wine in concentrating its heart-opening and communicating qualities (noticed by Homer and other great poets), which opium does in collecting in a small space the narcotic effects observable in the same liquor. Whether this essence possesses something of an emetic action on the *vesicula memorativa* of the brain, by which it compels them to disgorge their contents, or swelling the contents themselves by its influence, gives them a sort of expansive *nus*, that forces them from their former bounds, let physicians determine. For my part the fact suffices me, and of this I am fully convinced.

Though great part of the labour of the familiars is spent in acquiring information as mentioned, yet their agency is not entirely confined to this object: They are also employed by their superiors in blasting reputations, undermining and opposing the honest efforts at advancement, and destroying the peace of the families of those obnoxious to them, either from motives which regard the imagined interest of the society, or from private

pratique. Those, whom they have no hope to induce to join them as *cognoscenti* or to employ as *ignoranti*, they are particularly severe against. It may easily be conceived that from the magazine of minute intelligence collected by them as already explained, there will be no difficulty in picking out such materials as best suit their malicious designs; and that their extensive communication, correspondence, and intercourse, furnishes them with ample means of working up the materials to any purpose of detraction or malignity. Their skill in amplifying and expanding trifling facts into crimes of momentous import is indeed astonishing. It has frequently reminded me of what I have somewhere read of a fabled magical tent which could be folded up in the space of a cocoa-nut, to hang to a man's girdle, but when blown up would expand by the breath of the operator to any extent required, so as to cover any indefinite number.—Thus when those familiars get possession of a fact, though of a minuteness which escape into common observation, they possess a power of enlarging it to a size that surprises, and make it envelope such a number of falsehoods as appears nearly as supernatural as the expansive capaciousness of the enchanted tent.

How long their mischievous talents will be confined to the above-mentioned employments is hard to conjecture; if such things can be performed by an embryo society, what may we not expect from its perfect maturity? It is dreadful to think of it: It may yet be able to reverse all order, cripple the operations of our laws, and reduce all to a shapeless anarchy and revolutionary Parisian demonism.

I believe after what I have related, there are few who read this,

but most from their own observation be able to point out many of all the different kinds of inquisitorial agents mentioned among their present acquaintance, and be able to recollect many more in times past. They may, perhaps, call to mind their attempts to put them mentally on the rack (pray heaven their attempts may always be confined to the mind) to force the greater discoveries. And now that the clue is given, but small exertion will trace out various mazes of their hidden labyrinths which the bounds of this mode of communication does not permit to expatiate on as they deserve.

In concluding however, let me caution innocent and well-intentioned people against the attempts of this association to render them instrumental to their nefarious designs, and suggest the expediency of rendering it lawful to give false and misleading answers to all impertinent questions, at least for a season, as a means of checking and counteracting in some degree, the plots and contrivances of this inquisitorial conspiracy.

MEM—S.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SERAPH; OR VANITY REPROVED.

A Tale for the Ladies.

O, softly soothing stream!
That gently murmuring flows;
Whilst now the moon's mild beam
A paly radiance throws:
I love to steal along
In wild extatic dream,
And hear thy stilly song,
O softly soothing stream!

Along thy margin green,
Delightful 'tis to wander;
On heaven thus calm—serene—
Delightful 'tis to ponder:
While still thy murmur'ing sound
Aids contemplation's dream,
Inspiring thoughts profound,
O softly soothing stream!

While thus removed afar
From folly, noise, and strife,
I feel no more the jar
Of thoughts that harass life;
Those cares that fill'd my breast,
Are fled like fever's dream!
Thou lull'st to peace and rest,
O softly soothing stream!

T WAS thus Captain Lancaster poured forth his thoughts, as he rambled over his own grounds, one fine evening in June. He now set himself to compose an air for his verses, determining that his daughter should sing them as soon as he returned home.—While he is humming to himself for half an hour, among the trees, by the side of a stream that winds through his domain, we shall take that opportunity to give our readers some account of him.

Captain Lancaster was a younger son of a respectable family: his only wealth however at his first setting out in the world was a lieutenant's commission. Fate too, as if determined that he should remain poor, had decreed that he should fall in love with a woman as poor as himself. This was a trying situation: fearful of involving the object of his affection in a life of hardship, he struggled long against matrimony; but at length, after various proofs, on both sides, of constancy, affection, and virtue, they were united. For some years they bore up, and even flourished contentedly, amidst the chilling winds of poverty. Whether it was these gusts of misfortune which every year caused their hearts to cling closer together for support, or that they every year discovered in each other, more of those qualities which nature has commanded us to admire and esteem, we know not, but certain it is, their affection was constantly progressive.

The second year of their union

was blessed by the birth of a lovely girl; and in the third, their felicity was still increased by that of a boy. They now sometimes wished for riches, on their children's account, but both sincerely felt that wealth could not add to their own happiness.

And if at any time Lancaster chanced to express regret at not being able to give his children as liberal an education as he could wish—"At least," his Harriet would say, "we shall endeavour to educate them virtuously, and leave the rest to Providence. We will likewise endeavour to cultivate a taste for those simple pleasures and delights, which render their parents so uniformly happy, in spite, I may almost say, of fate. Though poor, we are respected; we have friends whom we love, and by whom we are beloved: we experience vast delight, entertainment, and instruction, from reading of which we are particularly fond; we enjoy a never failing source of amusement, and knowledge, in the beauties and wonders of nature; and our souls feel such a dependence on the mercy, and goodness of nature's God, that we neither regret the past, nor fear for the future. What then do we stand in need of that riches can procure? Oh nothing! for the wealth of the Indies could not purchase such a child as this," she would playfully add, clasping one of her infants to her bosom.

Five years had now rolled away, fraught, perhaps, with more happiness to Lancaster, than he could have enjoyed in any other situation; when, contrary to his expectation, fortune seemed inclined to be in a good humour with him.

The regiment to which he belonged happening at this time to be quartered in a town where an old uncle of his resided, he went of course to

pay his respects to him, and the old man, who had no children, conceived such an affection for himself and family, that after some months acquaintance, he declared his intention of leaving him his sole heir.—This event appeared as if it would shortly take place, for the elder Mr. Lancaster's health had been for some time on the decline. As, an earnest, however, of his future liberal intentions towards his nephew, he at present got him advanced to the rank of captain. Some time now elapsed very agreeably to all parties. Mr. Lancaster, owing, as he believed, to the pleasure he experienced in the captain's society, began to improve in health; in consequence of which, he gave a splendid entertainment to his friends, and his nephew was introduced as his future heir. It was well known that he was immensely rich, therefore the captain and his Harriet were the idols of the night. His Harriet this evening, immersing as it were from obscurity, like the sun after a long bleak winter, delighted, animated, and attracted the gaze of all. I need not here interrupt my narrative, to make a trite observation on the vanity and instability of all earthly pleasures. Alas! a blow awaited poor Lancaster, for which kingdoms but they been showered on him, nor aught that this world contains, could in no wise make him a recompense. Mrs. Lancaster, who was in an early stage of pregnancy, after being over-heated by dancing this night, caught a cold. For some time she thought slightly of it; but at length she became alarmed by its continuation; no art could remove her cough; she lived just long enough to bring a delicate infant into the world, and three weeks after its birth expired! her child soon followed her to the grave.

We shall not attempt to describe the widower's affliction.—What pen, what language, could paint that which had no words! no gestures! he was stunned, not maddened by the blow! had he possessed less religion, or less philosophy, he most probably had sunk under this silent despair of the heart! Alas! what does philosophy, unsupported by religion, avail us, in the trying hour of affliction? 'tis then indeed we forcibly feel our dependence on the Deity, and tremblingly cling to him for support!

Not long after the death of his niece, the elder Mr. Lancaster's health began again visibly to decline; since that event he had lost those pleasant conversations with his nephew, which had formerly contributed so much to raise his spirits, and keep him cheerful. Now when in company with the captain, he only felt for, and pitied him. Not long time therefore elapsed, before the captain saw his good uncle laid in his cold bed likewise. He left the bulk of his fortune to his nephew; who now found himself rich, without a relish for any of those pleasures that riches can purchase. Tired of the bustle of public life, he determined to seek contentment, if she were ever to be found by him, in a retired situation: in consequence of this resolution, he sold his commission, and went to reside on an estate which he possessed some miles from town; resolving to occupy himself in the education of his children, and agricultural pursuits.

Life to him had lost all charms, but by being a kind landlord, a humane master, and a generous friend to all, he hoped yet to prove the means of happiness to others. Nor was he mistaken, the blessings of the poor and afflicted followed his steps, whilst the respect, admiration, and love of all ranks for him,

were unbounded. But his chief delight centred in his children, and their instruction occupied a large portion of his time. He led them through the paths of learning in the gentlest, and most amusing manner by a happy art of simplifying his language, and using similes and comparisons adapted to their capacities, he rendered that which would appear dry and obscure to most young minds, plain and easy to them. For the more superficial (and in his estimation trivial), accomplishments of music, dancing, &c. they had masters from town. Indeed no labour or pains was spared in the cultivation of these two lovely blossoms; and early did they display tokens of that high degree of excellence which might be expected from them in a state of maturity. Their bodies and minds were formed in nature's most perfect mould. Harriet (the name of the girl) was beauty and grace personified; nor was the boy less charming: his mild large dark eyes, and high forehead, had somewhat sublime in their appearance; that capacious forehead bespoke judgment, fancy, and genius; while those mild, yet penetrating eyes, expressed benevolence and deep thought: his whole countenance and figure were equally prepossessing; and had Lavater beheld him, he must have exclaimed, "this boy is formed to act a distinguished part on the theatre of existence." How often has the fond father watched his children as they danced or gambled before him, like cupid and a younger grace, till tears swelled in his eyes, and he has been forced to turn away to hide his emotion! how often has he apostrophised their sainted mother, on beholding any excellence which he thought would have delighted her in them? And, Oh, how often has agony darted

through his brain, as he has thought, "She shall never, never, behold their virtues!" Six years passed away in this placid uniform manner; Captain Lancaster began to taste content, and cheerfulness again took up her abode in his mansion.

He could now without agony look stedfastly back on the misery he had past. As one who in the fury of a tempest has been struggling for life, at last finds himself safe on shore; he trembles at the dangers he has past, and his joy for his present safety is tempered with awe—he nevertheless feels it, and casts a grateful look to heaven.

Captain Lancaster was still in the full vigour and prime of manhood, being yet but thirty-three years of age. Those who have seen the famous Kemble play Hamlet, may form a tolerable good idea of his figure and face; indeed he was extremely like what Kemble looks in his best and most beautiful characters. But affliction had not yet emptied her quiver on him, nor had his countenance yet assumed that thoughtful air, which afterwards rendered him so like to the philosophizing Hamlet. He had now lived, as was mentioned before, six years in tranquillity, when his son, seized with an alarming illness, it was now feared that this boy, who greatly resembled his mother, inherited the delicacy of her constitution, yet the most vivid bloom of health had always flushed his cheeks, his father thought him a little Hercules; he therefore, from being entirely unprepared for it, felt the greater shock from his indisposition. Alas! who boasts of seeming health and strength? What is the most robust constitution? Has not the Almighty numbered the days of the children of men? This lovely, this enchanting beam, was quickly ex-

tinguished, leaving darkness impenetrable in the house of his father.

Again we must beg to be allowed to draw the veil over affliction, too poignant not to touch the feelings of every sympathizing reader. All the wretched parent said, as he caught the last breath of his expiring son was, "The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away, and blessed be the name of the Lord!" But did he feel less than those who rave, and rant, and tear the hair? Oh, no! The grief that does not speak,

"Whispers the woe-fraught heart, and bids it break!"

Too truly did poor Lancaster feel the truth of this, and to save himself, he fled from himself; he fled not to dissipation, his mind was superior to all its allurements; it was to society, to friendship he resorted, to banish his own thoughts. This mournful event entirely changed the tenor of his life; formerly he had delighted in solitude, delighted to muse alone; now madness lay that way—Behold him now therefore, that is some months after the death of his son, continually in company, and seldom at home. His daughter was therefore left entirely to herself. And did she now, 12 years old, not feel for the loss of her only brother, her companion, and play-mate? O, yes, she did indeed feel! nor was it the first time sorrow had entered her heart—though young, she had mourned the death of her mother, and her mind had retained a sombre cast ever since. Now in silence and solitude she wept her brother; but when her father appeared, she dressed her looks in cheerfulness, lest she should add to his affliction.

About seven months after the death of his son, a friend of the captain's advised him seriously to think of marrying a second time. This thought

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had never before suggested itself to him—Yet his friend's arguments to the following effect, had their weight: namely,—that he wanted society, his daughter wanted somebody to direct and instruct her; he wished to relish life; nor should he wantonly despair, or neglect any expedient that might be found to render it agreeable to him. Before the death of his son, he had felt an utter abhorrence to a second union, now his whole mind was changed. Thought was such torture, he was so overwhelmed in misery, that like a drowning wretch, he was willing to snatch at any thing to bear him up for a little. Enter the state of matrimony without love! that he would never do; could he be brought again to love, he would then marry.—Thus ended his cogitations on this important subject. In this disposition of mind he frequented the society of females more than he had ever done in his life. For a long time however all were alike indifferent to him, and only resorted to as the means of banishing his melancholy reflections.

Captain Lancaster with an enthusiasm for all that was beautiful, and a "quick disgust for what was disarranged or gross in species" did not, in his admiration for the beauties of nature, overlook the "human face divine;" though purified by grief, he was still a man, with all the feelings and passions of one; it need not therefore be wondered at, that his attention should be more bestowed upon the handsome than upon the ordinary part of the female sex.

It was his fate about this time to be introduced to a young lady so super-eminentely beautiful, that all others by comparison with her, seemed but as twinkling stars to night's refulgent queen. Maria Godfrey, the name of this lady, though

possessed of but a small fortune was nevertheless of a very respectable family. She was extremely fascinating in her manners; in her disposition, she was gay and volatile; her conversation always abounding with vivacity and spirit. Clouds of admirers attended her steps; that many of them were real lovers, we cannot positively assert; this, however, is certain, as soon as Captain Lancaster appeared, she seemed to show him a decided preference. At first admiration alone attracted him to her; in her society, he found his time pass more agreeably than any where else, and at length she became in a manner necessary to him.—He considered himself already sufficiently rich; fortune therefore with a wife was no object to him. The lively disposition of Maria pleased him, it formed a contrast to his melancholy, and might, in time, he thought, succeed in banishing it from his mind. In short he saw no reason why a beautiful woman should not make as good a wife as a plain one; all he wished for was an agreeable companion, and sensible friend, and such a one he believed he had found.

His proposals of marriage after a due hesitation and demur on her side, were at length favourably received, and the nuptial day fixed. Before the ceremony took place, Harriet was brought from the country to see her mamma elect: she was kissed and caressed, and called the sweetest, loveliest, most interesting girl in the world.

Behold Captain Lancaster again embarked on the ocean of matrimony! that wonderful ocean which is either tranquil and delicious, or tempestuous and dreadful according to the dispositions and tempers of the mariners: it is universally allowed to be squally, however, and those who meet with favourable gales are bless-

and indeed. Weeks and months now glided away imperceptibly, Cupid scattered pleasure and joy through the mansion which Hymen had blessed, and tranquillity again took up her abode in the breast of the bridegroom.

Upon nearer acquaintance, Captain Lancaster found that he had somewhat mistaken the character of Maria; her smiles proceeded less from good nature than the love of pleasing; and her consciousness of the superiority of her personal charms, made her haughty, and at times overbearing in her manners; in short he found that vanity was her ruling passion. This discovery gave him at first, but slight uneasiness for what woman is not vain, thought he? besides her beauty might almost plead her excuse. could any thing excuse vanity. Her love of admiration was indeed unbounded, for now, though a wife, she still expected the men to do homage to her charms. Long habituated to large draughts of flattery, that delicious poison so palatable to mortals, had corrupted her mind. The calm and peaceful delights of the country possessed no charms for her. Admiration, dress, and splendour, were the idols of her devotion. Soon the husband's idolatry of those charms that were every day familiar to him, declined; he began to think of her mind; for he wanted a friend to whom to unboose himself. But where was this friend to be found? can friendship exist without some similarity in the sentiments of the parties? as well might he expect a reciprocity of sentiment in the most illiterate savage, as in a being whose whole time since she had arrived at years of discretion had been entirely occupied with balls, assemblies, and dress. Many laborious hours had he spent in hard study; his partner had never studied five minutes in

her life except the cut of a new robe or cap. Never before had he so forcibly felt the disadvantages of beauty to its possessor! a handsome woman without vanity, and possessed of mental endowments must be an angel! thought he!

All attempts to convert his wife into a rational friend proved abortive; when he strove to converse with her on the subjects most dear to his heart, she either understood him not, or showed an uneasy impatience that quite disconcerted him.

Finding the mind of his wife so dissimilar to his own, Captain Lancaster, applied himself with double assiduity to enlighten and expand that of his daughter: But even this, which had formerly been his darling employment now brought something unpleasant with it; for he soon perceived that on those days which he devoted most time to his daughter, Mrs. Lancaster appeared in a sullen, disagreeable humour. At first he attributed this partly to the state of her health, which was not very good. For amusement and the benefit of her health, he proposed a little excursion into Wales to Harriet and her, which was agreed to with alacrity by both.

Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster and the delighted Harriet set out soon after on their little tour, which they intended should last a fortnight. But before the half of that time was expired, Mrs. Lancaster complained of fatigue and wished for home; every art to amuse her failed, and this unpleasant humour threw a gloom on the whole party.

This change, however, was rather brought about by some little chagrin she had experienced in the course of their journey, rather than by fatigue, as she alleged.

At their first setting out, the Captain had pointed out to her every

object that struck him either by its beauty or sublimity, varying his discourse by descriptions he had read of the beauties and wonders that are to be met with in other countries. She listened, but seemed not much amused; rural scenery possessed no charms for her. Harriet was not so; accustomed to a country life, and to run, in a manner wild; she was an enthusiastic admirer of nature. Lately she had been reading "*Co. de's Travels in Switzerland*," and her mind being full of the book, she talked of it with animated delight, and attempted to draw comparisons between Switzerland and the country she now passed through.

Her father was pleased and astonished to find her so entertained, and entertaining; they would sometimes hold conversations, in which Mrs. Lancaster took no part. At such times she once or twice said she found she was but an encumbrance to them, and wished they had left her at home.

One morning before they entered the chaise, as Harriet ran before them, to clamber up some rocks, the fond father could not help remarking what a brilliant bloom her cheeks had acquired; that he thought she was improved very much of late, and how amazingly tall she was growing. "I think she is grown very tall indeed," said her mother-in-law, without replying to any other part of his speech. For the first time Captain Lancaster perceived his wife to be of a jealous temper; it was with grief he made this discovery, from knowing what dreadful pangs such a disposition must occasion in the bosom that fosters it.

After returning from their tour, Harriet began to perceive that she was not much beloved by her new mother. The time was now fast approaching, when the Captain might

again expect the happiness of being a father, and to this event he looked forward with the most joyful hopes. At length Mrs. Lancaster was happily delivered of a daughter. On the Captain's paying his congratulatory visit to his lady, "look my dear" said she, "what a little cherub! she is as beautiful as an angel." "Then we will give her an angelic name," said he, "she shall be called Seraphina after my mother." Accordingly in due time, the child was baptized by that name; but the domestics either from the signification of her name, her beauty, or some whim always denominated her the Angel.

After the birth of her daughter, when Mrs. Lancaster again recovered her health and spirits, all was harmony and joy: Indeed, this child seemed a messenger sent from heaven to bring happiness to her father's house, she was so beautiful, so good-natured, and so beloved, that smiles and cheerfulness for ever sported round her. Harriet just at that age, when dolls are thrown by, found her little sister to be an animated doll of which she never tired. She was unhappy if she spent a minute from Seraph, who very soon began to know her, and return her caresses. Mrs. Lancaster could not help being pleased by the extraordinary attachment Harriet manifested towards her child, and this caused her to behold her with a more favourable eye than formerly. The early marks of extraordinary intelligence which little Seraph displayed, were probably owing to Harriet's attention, who incessantly watched over her, and taught her something every day, while the animated countenance of the child lighted up by smiles of affection and gratitude, had expressed her thanks a thousand times before she could utter a word.

When Seraph could walk and

peak, it was with extreme reluctance on both sides, that the two sisters ever separated for a moment. Four years thus passed away in peace and harmony.

Harriet taught her sister to read before the generality of children know the alphabet; indeed an astonishing precocity of understanding was visible in every action of this interesting and admirable child. It need not be wondered at, that the fond parents doted on her with the most lively affection, as did every member of the family. Nor was she in the least spoiled by all the fondness that was lavished on her: love inspires love, her little heart overflowed with kindness to all within its reach; but the dearest object of her affection was still her sister: gratitude is one of the first sentiments of the human breast.

Harriet now in her sixteenth year, was grown tall and extremely beautiful; the gentleness of her manners, together with the sweetness of her temper, made her beloved as soon as she was known. But the retiring bashfulness of her disposition induced her to shrink from observation and avoid company. She therefore knew nothing of the world, and was as innocent as little Seraph.

Captain Lancaster wishing to correct this timidity of disposition, fearful that it might prove injurious to his daughter in her progress through life, insisted that she should now be introduced into company. At first Mrs. Lancaster objected to this, saying, that she would be a woman, and feel the cares and anxieties of one time enough: she reluctantly complied however with her husband's request, and from that day, poor Harriet might date the commencement of her misery.

Little did her fond father foresee the consequence of this step; little did he imagine that the foul fiend

jealousy would soon take possession of his wife's bosom, imbittering all his own days, and those of his beloved daughter.

Soon after this time, Mrs. Lancaster and Harriet happened to go one evening to the theatre in the neighbouring town. Several gentlemen, acquaintances of Mrs. Lancaster, came to pay their compliments to her; among the rest Lord V. who had formerly been her admirer. It was once confidently reported that she would be Lady V. but in the meantime, Mr. Lancaster stepped in and bore away the prize. His Lordship had scarcely finished his first salutation, before he asked who the lovely angel was that sat beside her.—

"O! Captain Lancaster's daughter, a mere child," said she. "I never saw so tall nor so beautiful a child in all my life," replied his lordship. "Will you have the goodness madam to introduce me to it." He was accordingly introduced, and for the remainder of the evening devoted himself to Harriet. Mrs. Lancaster was mortified; but this was only the commencement of her chagrin; for during the entertainment she could perceive that scarcely an eye was attracted by her charms, while those of her fairer daughter excited universal admiration. She complained of being ill before the play was over; indeed she looked ill, and was in wretched spirits.

The next day in the absence of her father, Harriet received a long lecture on propriety of behaviour and the disgusting folly of children taking the air of women on them. Every succeeding day now brought with it, lectures to poor Harriet, which might with more propriety be termed scolds. Sometimes she was chid for appearing when visitors called, the nursery or school-room was much fitter for her; at other times she was reprimanded if she

did not make her appearance; she absented herself merely to excite interest, and that a number of inquiries might be made after her. In short, she found it impossible to please her mother-in-law, let her conduct herself in what manner she would, or how irreproachable soever her behaviour might appear in the eyes of others.

(*To be Continued.*)

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

The following Petition and Answer, remind us of the favourable hopes excited and justified by the commencement of the French Revolution. They form a curious document worthy of preservation. The petition suitably states the peculiar doctrines of the Quakers, and claims protection for them. The answer of Mirabeau pronounces some sublime truths on the sacred right of private judgment, independent of the religion of the state, and forcibly demonstrates that opinions merely as such, where no breaches of morality appear, ought not to be cognizable by the legislature. Happy would it be if the liberal sentiments on this subject of religious opinions were interwoven as fundamental principles into all codes of laws, and formed a rule for the conduct of all sects towards each other, and also for the treatment of their own members, when diversity of opinion might happen to prevail among them.

THE RESPECTFUL PETITION OF THE
FRIENDS OF THE CHRISTIAN SOCIETY,
CALLED QUAKERS.

*Delivered to the National Assembly,
10th of 2d mo. 1791.*

RESPECTABLE LEGISLATORS,

THE French nation having chosen
you its law-givers, and your

minds being disposed to give to her wise laws, our hearts have been lively excited to solicit your justice and beneficence on behalf of the society of the peaceable christians to which we belong.

You know that there exists in several parts of Europe and North America, a great number of christians distinguished by the name of Quakers, who profess to serve God according to the ancient simplicity of the primitive christian church:— There are in many towns and villages of Languedoc a number of families attached to this primitive christianity. Several families came from America to settle at Dunkirk, under the auspices of the former government, on an invitation given to the inhabitants of the island of Nantucket, with a view to extend the French fisheries. These Islanders have proved by their success, that they merit your favour, and the same exertions will cause them to continue to merit it; but interests far more exalted bring us this day before you.

In an age, wherein light hath made a rapid progress, you have discovered that conscience (the immediate communication of man with his Maker) cannot be subjected to the power of men. This sentiment of justice hath inclined you to decree general liberty to all worship. This is one of the most excellent decrees of the French legislation; you have given a great example to those nations who still persecute religious opinions, an example we hope they will follow sooner or later.

It is to this spirit of justice we apply for liberty peaceably to follow certain principles and maxims, which the great society of friends called Quakers have invariably supported since their earliest origin. One of these principles hath drawn upon us severe but unavailing persecu-

tions. Providence has strengthened us to bear them without using violence: It is this principle which forbids us on any pretext to take up arms, and to slay men, a principle agreeable to Holy Scripture, Christ having said, "Return not evil for evil, but do good to your enemies." May the Lord grant that this principle be universally adopted, all mankind would only then be one family and brotherhood, united by mutual kindnesses: You are convinced of this, ye generous Frenchmen; you have already begun to reduce it to practice, ye have decreed never to imbrue your hands in the blood of conquest. This step leads you—it leads the whole world towards universal peace: Ye will not then look with hostile eyes on the men who hasten the coming thereof by their example, and who have given proof in Pennsylvania that vast establishments can be set up and supported without military forces or the effusion of human blood.

Subject to your laws we only claim the liberty of being here as in other places, brethren to all mankind, and not to be obliged to arm our hands against any. England and the United States of America, where our brethren are in far greater numbers than in France, have suffered us peaceably to enjoy this grand principle of our religion, without looking on us as useless members of society.

We have still one request more, and we hope you will not refuse it, because it flows from these principles of justice which you revere. We have preserved in registering of our marriages, births, and burials, the simplicity of the primitive church, our maxims forbid us forms which are useless, yet it is a rule amongst us, to prove these events of life in due order; we request that our simple register may be sufficient to le-

galize our marriages and births, and to prove our burials, making a declaration of them before a magistrate.

Finally, we request to be exempted from all forms of oaths, Christ having expressly forbid them in these terms: "Ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time, Thou shalt not forswear thyself, but shalt perform unto the Lord thine oaths; but I say unto you, Swear not at all, (or in any manner), but let your yea be yea, and your nay, nay." Wise legislators, you are persuaded as well as we, that the form of an oath adds nothing to good faith, that it adds nothing to the declaration of an honest man, and that it does not deter perjurers: You agree that the oath is but a peculiar mode of expressing a declaration: We hope you will not refuse to bear us in ours: It is that of our common Master, it is that of Christ. We hope that none will accuse us of wishing to evade the great intention of the civic oath. We are ready to declare, that we will abide faithful to the constitution which you have established—We cherish and respect it, and our intention is to conform to its laws in all their purity. On the other hand, if our words, if our judicial depositions are not found conformable to truth, we submit to the punishment due to false witnesses and perjurers.

Would you hesitate, respectable legislators, to lend a favourable ear to our petition. Cast your eyes upon the history of our society: In the countries where it hath been established, more than a century hath elapsed without our ever being found concerned in any conspiracy against the government. Our strict morality forbids us ambition and luxury, a strict and domestic watchfulness over each other, tends to preserve us in the practice and manners which

our Lord hath inculcated by his doctrines and example. Labour is in our view an indispensable duty enjoined to all men. This precept hath made us active and industrious, thus our society accords with France in this point. Giving us a favourable reception, you invite industry, who now seeks those countries where the honest industrious man is not apprehensive of seeing persecution destroy in one quarter of an hour, the fruits of an hundred years' labour.

Now that France is about to become the asylum of liberty, of an equality of rights, of an happy fraternal union; that she is uniting to these sources of prosperity, a liberty for every individual to follow his conscience in its intercourse with the supreme Being, since she is so happily situated by nature, what advantages shall she not derive from those of our society, who live in less favourable climates, as soon as they shall know that you grant them the same civil and religious liberty which they enjoy in England, and in the United States of America.

Such is the respectful petition which our hearts have been excited to offer you, for the peace of our brethren of France, and the prosperity of a country which is dear to us. We hope, that in the midst of your great exertions to renovate this empire, and multiply the sources of its happiness, you will extend over us and our offspring your justice and beneficence: Thus shall you deserve a requital from our Creator, and the love of all good men.

(Signed) JEAN MARCILLAC,
WILLIAM ROTCH,
BENJAMIN ROTCH.

THE PRESIDENT, MIRABEAU'S ANSWER.

THE Quakers, who have disclaimed persecutors and tyrants, could not address themselves to any lawgivers with more confidence than to those

who (the first in France) have reduced to laws the rights of men.— And may France, when renovated may France hereafter in the very bosom of peace, whose interests she will always hold inviolably dear, become also another happy Pennsylvania.

As a philanthropic system your principles demand our admiration they remind us that the original of each society was a family united by its manners, its affections, and its wants, and without doubt the most sublime institutions would be those which creating a second time the human species, bring it back to this first and virtuous origin.

The examination of your principles considered as opinions, concerns us no more. We have declared that there is a property which no man wishes to make common; the movements of his soul, and the transports of his mind. This sacred inheritance places man in a hierarchy more exalted than social state. As a citizen, he adopts a form of government; as a thoughtful being, he has no country here but the universe.

As religious principles, your doctrine shall not be the object of our deliberations: The communion of every man with the Most High independent of all political institution. Between God, and the heart of man, what government dares to interfere!

As social maxims, your claim ought to be submitted to the discussion of the legislative body. It will examine if the forms that you observe, to prove births and marriage gives authenticity enough to the filiation of the human species; that the distinction of properties rendered indispensable, independent of good morals. It will examine, if a declaration, the falsity of which would be subject to the penalties established against false witnesses and perjurors, would not in reality be

false oath—estimable citizens, you have already taken the civic oath, which all men worthy to be free, have looked on rather as an enjoyment, than as a duty; you have not taken God to witness, but you have attested your conscience; and is not a pure conscience, a cloudless sky? Is not this part in man a ray of the divinity?

You say again, that an article of your religion forbids you to bear arms, and to kill, under any pretext whatever. It is without doubt a fine philosophic principle, which he who holds forth in some measure defies humanity; but consider whether self-defence, and that of our neighbour, be not also a religious duty—You would then have to sink under tyrants! Since we have acquired liberty for you, and for us, why will you refuse to preserve it.

Your brethren of Pennsylvania, if they had been nearer savages, would they have let them destroy their wives, their children, and their old men, rather than repulse the violence? and stupid tyrants, ferocious conquerors, are they not also savages? The assembly will discuss all your demands in its wisdom, and if ever I meet a Quaker, I'll say to him, "My brother, if thou hast a right of being free, thou hast a right to hinder thyself from being made a slave."

"Since thou lovest thy neighbour, do not let him be destroyed by tyranny; that would be to kill him thyself.—Wishest thou for peace? Well! it is weakness which causes war. A general resistance would be universal peace."

The Assembly invites you to assist at its council.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

RAMBLE, IN 1809,

(Continued from page 183.)

LEAVING Larne, I crossed by a bridge the small river, called In-

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ver. (which here divides the estates of the Marquis of Donegall, and Countess of Antrim), and entered the parish of the same name, which is now united in the established church to that of Larne. In this parish was anciently an abbey of Friar's Cisterrians of St. Augustine, which was dissolved at the general dissolution of monastic houses, about the year 1542, and was afterwards, with its appurtenances, granted by James I. to Sir Arthur Chichester:—at present not a vestige remains. The road here wound agreeably along the shore of Larne lough; the land on the right bold and broken, and here and there covered with shrubs, among which some cattle were browsing; where the ground was broken, limestone generally appeared, and a considerable quantity of it is annually exported to Scotland. The horn of a deer was found a few years ago in a mass of this limestone. Here is a well in which is found, among its pebbles, some bones of animals or fish, completely petrified: when broken and put into vinegar, they evince an attractive quality, from which this spring is usually called the vinegar well. I now came in sight of the irregular hamlet of Glynn, which has truly a rural appearance, from its secluded situation, and the houses, chequered with trees gardens and cornfields, presenting to the eye a scene highly rural and romantic. Some of the houses were pretty neat, and I could not avoid repeating with the poet, "Ah! that for me some home like these would smile." This place was anciently called Linn, signifying a pool of water, and here St. Patrick founded an abbey, of which St. Darerca his sister was abbess; some ruins of its chapel still remain; the abbey with its lands were granted by James I. to Sir Arthur Chichester, by the title of the Chapel of Glynn. Novem-

ber, 4th, 1597, a sharp conflict took place here between the English forces, commanded by Sir John Chichester, Governor of Carrickfergus, and the Irish and Scots, commanded by James Mac Sorley Mac Donnel, (afterwards Earl of Antrim); the English were defeated with great slaughter, and Sir John Chichester being taken prisoner, was beheaded by Mac Donnel on the field of battle. I here quitted the main-road, and ascended by a cross one into that leading from Larne to Carrickfergus, by the way of Gleno; and the country presenting nothing striking, I soon reached the latter place. This hamlet is agreeably situated in a deep dell, through which runs a small river, on which is a beautiful cascade, adjoining the hamlet. The proprietors of this place, G. A. McClaverty, and J. A. Farrel, esqrs. seem to have vied with each other in adorning the banks of this river near the cascade, by laying it out into delightful walks, planted with a variety of trees and shrubs, the foliage of which in many places nearly excluded the rays of the sun. The sombre tints of autumn was visible on each leaf, and announced, that

“Summer’s painted foliage fades away.”

The constant murmuring of the cascade, the noise of the river gurgling down its rocky channel, and the soothing stillness that ran through the scene gave a pleasing melancholy charm to the whole; which was only now and then interrupted by the murmurs of the breeze, that seemed to sigh over the tops of the tallest trees; the scene infused a kind of awe on my mind, I felt “amit with the love of poesy and of song,” and sat down beneath the brow of a fractured rock, and wrote the following lines:

Reader, if you have a taste,
For sylvan dells, where cascades flow,
Here is a spot sure will you charm,
The rural dell of fair Gleno.

Here nature with a liberal hand,
Has clad the cliffs where eddies flow,
While art has added much to deck,
The pleasing streamlet of Gleno.

The trees here form a verdant arch,
A canopy, that does shade so,
That Phœbus’ beams can scarcely pierce
The lovely arbours of Gleno.

The limpid stream from rock to rock,
Lacessant falls, as white as snow,
Then rumbling with infracted course,
Winds down the meads of sweet Gleno.

Reader, if solitude has power
To sooth your mind, from things below,
This spot to you will be right dear,
You’ll feel the magic of Gleno.

Just as I had finished these lines, the voices of people in the opposite walks drew my attention; I arose and immediately left the place, as the gloom of evening was now visibly approaching. The road I took was steep, and much broken up, to remedy which, a new one has been lately made, which avoids the hills of the former, and renders it much easier for loaded carts, &c. I had almost forgot to mention, that the ancient boundary of the corporation of Carrickfergus extended to Johnston’s-ford, near Gleno; even in 1768, the late Marquis of Donegall rode the franchises to this place, touching the water-wheel of the corn-mill with his wand. The general appearance of the country here is indifferent, being nearly destitute of planting; the soil a light mould, approaching a moory nature, mostly incumbent on rock or gravel. After travelling about a mile, I entered the county of, the town of Carrickfergus, the country here was still more indifferent, in many places covered with heath, which was now truly “unprofitably gay,” its purple tints were set off by the glow of evening.

and the long slanting beams of the sun, which recalled to my recollection the following lines :

"The broad sun verging on the close of day,
A fuller red beams o'er th' etherial plain,
The streaky clouds attend his last bright ray,
And silver Vesper leads his starry train."

The Picts are said to have made *ale* from heath, or heather; what a rare article for taxation we have lost, by the stupidity of our ancestors! Entering the commons of Carrickfergus, I came in sight of Loughmorn, literally Lough-mor, i. e. the great lough, being about a mile and a quarter long, and at a mean about half a mile broad, and is said to be the largest sheet of water of the same altitude in Ireland, being 566 feet above the level of Carrickfergus bay. The gloom of evening was now spreading fast over the landscape, so I did not halt to make any observation, but hastened home, where I soon arrived, both tired and pleased with my journey.

Carrickfergus.

S. MS.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE REFORMATION OF CRIMINALS.

ON reading an account in the public papers of so many acquittals at Carrickfergus assizes, most of which took place, for want of prosecution; I was led to regret the present state of our laws, with respect to the punishment of offenders, and perfectly agree in the sentiment, that if the mode of punishment was changed, prosecutions would be more certain, and the offender, instead of being turned loose to molest again the peace of society, would meet with punishment proportionate to the offence he has committed, and might

by a course of proper treatment be restored to usefulness.

According to the present mode of punishment, death is in many cases the certain consequence of prosecutions, and many people feel a reluctance in coming forward to prosecute in a transaction, where the least idea is entertained that the proceedings may terminate in the death of the unhappy culprit. Thus, offenders often escape, and are as it were encouraged to proceed in their old habits, if not to greater lengths than ever.

The country swarms with shop-lifters and pick-pockets, and it requires some effectual means to endeavour to lessen the number. The mode hitherto used, has not had the desired effect. Neither transportation nor punishment by death seems to diminish the number of crimes. It is I believe generally agreed that death is too severe a punishment for petty offences, and many entertain the opinion that the life should not be taken on any account, even for crimes the most enormous, with which latter sentiment I fully unite. And in my view of the subject the mode of transportation appears to me to carry with it many serious objections. The dispositions of those transported are not likely to be much improved by the measure. The country to be sure is well rid of the nuisance, but I do think that in the carrying on of prosecutions against delinquents some view should be had to something better than merely to get rid of the annoyance, without adopting some measure that might in some degree tend to their future amendment; and how far the present system of our Jails, or mode of transportation is adapted to that end, we are all pretty sensible.

I expect that very few instances could be produced of individuals

being reclaimed to, a proper line of conduct by transportation or confinement in our Jails, the measures appear to me to have had a contrary tendency. Great reformation is necessary with respect to the mode of punishing offenders. To reclaim, should in my opinion be the great end in view, for though they may be guilty of many crimes requiring the strong interference of law, they are still our fellow creatures and demand our pity and serious attention to be paid to their wretched situation. I would by no means be for a lax line of punishment, or that offenders should escape without due chastisement. The necessity of many cases requires in some measure severity, but I would have it tempered with a view, if possible, to their future improvement.

The institution at Philadelphia (I can hardly call it a prison) appears to be well worthy of imitation. It seems calculated to answer every purpose for which it was intended.

Humanity and a view to usefulness are so interwoven with the mode of punishment, and the manner of treatment so carried on as cannot fail to produce the most beneficial effects: effects beneficial to society, and highly useful to individuals, who have been the subjects of confinement have arisen from this wise establishment; an establishment which instead of being a burthen to the state, is amply supported by its own industry.

Who among us that contemplates with serious reflection on the state of such things here, would not wish that something of the kind was set on foot in this country, and that some of the vast sums of money voted away every year for worse than useless purposes were applied to erecting establishments similar to that at Philadelphia. Much good would no doubt result therefrom, and

instead of those who have forfeited their liberty by a violation of the laws growing worse by punishment and acquiring stronger habits of vice, there would be a probability of their being made better, and restored to a due sense of their errors. But according to our present system of transportation and confinement in our Jails, not the smallest hope of their amendment remains. Instead of coming out of confinement, or returning from transportation (if they should return) bettered by their past situation, they are worse, and acquire fresh degrees of strength to pursue with redoubled vigour, the path of vice, and commit fresh depredations on society.

I believe it is no uncommon thing in America for persons who have been confined in the Philadelphia prison for heinous offences, after undergoing the necessary restraint under proper regulations and the mode adopted there, to come out with confirmed habits of industry and impressed with a due sense of moral rectitude.

Instead of their minds being hardened, or remembering their former situation with disgust, it is contemplated by them with sentiments of esteem and gratitude to the managers of the institution; they become useful members of the community without their former conduct being remembered to them in terms of reproach, but receive all the respect due to a reformation of manners. And I suppose very few instances occur of offenders returning to their old habits, or requiring a second course of punishment.

Surely, these are subjects which merit the serious consideration of those in whose hands the power lies to bring about a reform in matters, that so nearly concerns the good of all; but it is much to be regretted, that statesmen are too much employ-

ed in facilitating schemes of a contrary tendency.

The war system seems to occupy nearly the whole attention of those in power and devising means for its support, to accomplish which the public good is sacrificed, and the consideration how to remove abuses too much lies dormant.

Great reformation is much wanting in almost every department of public and private measures. But amidst the gloom that a view of the present state of things presents, a ray of hope sometimes enlightens the prospect, in observing the exertions of a few individuals in public life, in endeavouring after a change of system in more departments than one, that might tend to the general good. But alas! these are overborne by the corruption that so generally prevails, and the self-interested motives of too many at the head of public affairs. But whether the endeavours of the few steady advocates in the cause of reform avail or not, they will have, at least, the satisfaction of remembering that they have done all they could.

Nearly connected with the foregoing observations, is the consideration of the benefit of right education among the lower classes, and it must be a source of real pleasure to every friend of the human race, to observe that the education of the children of the poor is become so much the subject of public attention. It is a subject that loudly calls for the support of all who are interested in the improvement of their fellow-creatures, to forward the benevolent exertions of those individuals who have undertaken the arduous but delightful task of "teaching ignorance to see." Incalculable benefits may arise from their exertions and through their means the foundation laid in early life of strict morality and sound principle, and an impression of the

necessity of rectitude of conduct in every department of human life.

Much is called for at the hands of those whose situations in the world enable them to contribute their support to these institutions wherever scattered in the bounds where they reside, and also to the establishing of them where they are not. If the sums of money that are daily squandered in superfluities and extravagance, were appropriated to this purpose, how different would the appearance of things be among us. Thousands who are now wallowing in ignorance and sloth, would have the means of being instructed and becoming, instead of subjects for a Jail by the commission of crimes, useful members of the community, and patterns of these virtues that add a lustre to the dignity of human nature.

Before I close these observations I would just remark the regret I have sometimes felt in looking over the accounts of plans for public buildings, and could not help observing that if simplicity was sufficiently attended to in the design and execution, the sums allotted for such purposes would be much less, thereby reserving a portion that might be applied to the establishing of other useful buildings equally wanting.

In a late newspaper I observed resolutions for building a new Church in the town of Newry, with a design of applotting a sum not less than £12,000 towards defraying the expences. I could not help remarking in my own mind, that if real usefulness be the object in view, how much less a sum than this would answer the purpose, and the money intended to be laid out in superfluous ornaments be applied to the necessities of some useful, charitable institution.

What use for lofty spires? It may be said they are ornamental. They may be ornamental, but they are cer-

tainly not useful, and the money employed in erecting such ornaments had fitter be applied to some better purpose. Simplicity is certainly more consistent with the idea of the purpose for which such buildings are intended.

N. S.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON AFFORDING TO KEEP A CONSCIENCE.

IT is related of the late Dr. Paley, that he jocularly said of himself, that "he was not rich enough to afford to keep a conscience." Whether the jocularity was real or affected, the saying appears to afford a key to the doctor's character. About the period of his using these expressions, much discussion had taken place among many clergymen of the church of England, on the subject of subscription to the 39 articles; and some highly respected characters, as Lindsey, Disney, &c. had resigned their livings rather than comply, when the dictates of their judgment did not sanction the external act of compliance. The doctor's thorough orthodoxy was rather suspected, but as a salvo to his own mind, he invented the convenient doctrine, that each might put his own construction on the articles, which were only to be considered as "articles of peace." This convenient doctrine soon became fashionable: many, as well as the doctor, satisfied themselves with a reservation as to internal belief, and by giving an external assent, retained their emoluments, and put a stop to the desertions, which were then rapidly for a season thinning the ranks of the church. The casuistry of "*not affording to keep a conscience*," soon became fashionable and was found very efficacious in silencing scruples.

From the present temper of the times, and the current of public opinion, the disinclination to keep conscience is very prevalent, and a characteristic feature of modern manners. The inflexible firmness of good old times is out of fashion, and if knowledge have increased, unbending, undeviating integrity has declined. In the polish of manners, asperities have not only been rubbed off, but a considerable part of the substance has been lost, and a great portion of steady principle has been sacrificed to smoothness and pliancy.

We require to be recalled to an adherence to principle, and to prefer the higher toned virtues of former times, to the modish defect of not possessing a discriminating character. Pope's satire, partial when exclusively confined to one sex, may be extended to both sexes, and to most ranks in life, and we may admit that many "have no character at all:" the many have so little of mind, and preserve so little of that independence, which best indicates the exercise of judgment, and the individuality that results from the employment of mind, that to go into company, and hear the conversation on the topics of the day, there is so little of discrimination, and originality of matter or manner, we might be induced to say, they are composed of

"Matter too soft a lasting mark to bear,
And best distinguish'd by black, brown,
or fair."

Man is a gregarious animal, and to dwell in herds is his favourite inclination. Consequently each circle has to a certain degree its own maxims, and is governed by its own laws. So far all is well, and according to the nature and constitution of the mind of man, but as excess leads into error, and many

adopt the maxims of the society, whether religious, political, or social, into which inclination or accident may have thrown them. Being unwilling to be at the expense of keeping a conscience, they try the experiment of keeping one in common among them, and of squaring their conduct by a set of notions, which under such circumstances must be vague, and undefined. Diffusion of this kind necessarily produces weakness. Dr. Johnson in conversing with a young woman, who had changed her profession of religion, and who pleaded conscience for the act, told her, that she had no right to judge, but leave the matter to the conscience of the state. She justly retorted on the Doctor, by archly embodying a personification of the state, and its mighty conscience, and showed the absurdity of the phantom. Yet this conscience, of common stock, often supersedes the genuine unsophisticated visitings of individual conscience, and man drops his individuality, and suffers himself to lose his independent character, and becomes like an unanimated particle in the general mass.

In former times, the moral censor had the task of softening down the asperities of virtue, and teaching that virtue was more lovely without her frown: now the times, and prevailing errors are changed. Attempts are made to force virtue to wear a perpetual smile, and to assume an unmeaning simper. She retires, and her place is frequently usurped by a phantom dressed like her, of complaisant and pliant manners, but totally deficient in the energies of manly independence. Fashion exercises almost an omnipotent sway, not only over dress, and manners, but has intruded her dictates over opinion, and attempts to interdict independence, and prudence. Virtue, retired at a distance,

calls to her followers to rally, and arrange themselves under her unspotted banners, that the more errors and vices abound, they may more resolutely make a stand, and resist the encroachment of the enemy. Above all her incessant call is, "Erect my standard over every discouragement, dare to do right in the worst of times, and do not begrudge the expense of keeping a clear conscience."

The too general habits of living above income, are destructive of virtuous independence. This is one of the effects of luxury which now so generally prevails. Many will deny the charge; but under its more comprehensive definition, all improper indulgence of expense above means is luxury, which thus becomes in a certain sense a relative term. Such is the strange compound produced by the passions, that we often meet with sordid meanness, as to matters of useful expenditure, combined with great prodigality in articles, in which indulgence and ostentation are concerned, and find people niggardly and profuse at the same time. A high toned virtue teaches us to hold all things in their proper estimation, and to give to each its appropriate place; to be generous and liberal on proper occasions, even though the exertions should lay us under the necessity of abridging ourselves of some selfish gratifications. But an indulgence in improper expenses, has a strong tendency to debase the mind, by lowering the standard of moral excellence. Many from being straitened to make expenses commensurate with income, are led into acts, which destroy peace of mind, and are reduced to that state of poverty, both literally and metaphorically as not to be able to afford to keep a conscience. Bad habits often commence in thoughtlessness and pro-

fusion, and terminate in debasement of character. K.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

IN his philosophical essays, Dugald Stewart shows himself a zealous antagonist to the theory of Hartley, yet his own performance appears to be a perpetual practical application of that very theory. It illustrates as it were the *ubiquity* of the associating principle, in all the philosophy of mind, and in all the effects of experience. Indeed, as has been well remarked by Horne Tooke, philosophers have taken away from experience the credit of our instruction, for want of perceiving how early she begins her lessons.

In like manner, Professor Stewart, finds fault with this same Horne Tooke, for recurring in his explanation of terms, to the literal, and primitive sense of the roots from whence they sprung, elucidating, by this means with a glance of his original genius, the gradual process of analogical phraseology, by which, metaphysical terms, that were seemingly divested of their *primary* import, are again resolved into the circumstances, which originally suggested them; and thus, terms, the most refined and abstracted, are proved to have been at first, borrowed from some object of *external perception*. Hence the Etymologist will often correct the errors of the Metaphysician.

Yet, notwithstanding his rejection of Mr. Tooke's most ingenious hypothesis; Mr. Stewart in his essay on *SUBLIMITY*, seems to have implicitly adopted it, though he is willing, with the *esprit de corps* common to all Scotch authors, to make Lord Kames the original source from whence he drew his theory.

Lord Kames, says he, has observed "that, generally speaking, the figurative sense of a word is derived from its proper sense;" and then, in illustration of this remark, the Professor proceeds in tracing the various metaphorical or transitive meaning of the term sublime, to its literal and primary sense, as synonymous with *height* or *altitude*.

Whether Mr. Tooke's *political* principles have had any influence in exasperating the repugnance which the Scotch philosophers have expressed with respect to his etymological doctrine, it is not easy to say; but I am disposed to believe, that a man who made use of such a sentence as the following, stands but little chance of ever receiving a warm compliment from the Edinburgh Reviewers.—"But I do acknowledge, and I make it my boast, that upon all great public questions, neither friends nor foes; nor life, nor death; nor thunder, nor lightning shall ever make me give way, the breadth of one hair." This was indeed a declaration sufficient to cause the broadest stare throughout the Scottish land, and to fix all its poets, its philosophers, and its patriots, in mute astonishment.

I feel the highest or deepest respect for the inhabitants of Scotland *personally*, for their many estimable qualities, for their habits of industry and œconomy, their tranquil and indefatigable ambition; their hard though polished manners; their tenaciousness of purpose; their general education; and even their nationality, which can, however, be deemed but a bastard patriotism. *Personally*, they are to be respected; as a public they are nothing, and with respect to public spirit, or the soul of a country, it is my unalterable opinion, that it was lost forever at that fatal era, when a historian of their own nation said that

no sum was too little for purchasing the votes of the Scottish members.

Although it be certain that the period of time between the revolution, and the passing of the act of union produced men of eminent talents; yet it is some compensation, and some consolation if in consequence of that act so destructive of public spirit in Scotland, literature has been more successfully cultivated, and learned men become more abundant. It is some compensation that they can lay claim to such an author as Dugald Stewart, though it is much to be doubted whether they ever will have to boast of such a man as Horne Tooke. Lord Erskine will by many be deemed a veteran patriot, but some who more narrowly watch the difference between the exits and entrances of men will only call him a *veterinary* patriot. Fletcher of Saltoun appears to me the last of the Scottish patriots, as Marcus Brutus, was called by Cremutius Cordus (who suffered death in consequence of this *libel* on the government)—the last of the Romans. It was said, of Fletcher that he would lose his life, readily, to preserve his country, and would not do a base action to save it. He was a learned, gallant, honest, and every way well accomplished gentleman, and if ever a man proposes to serve and merit well of his country, let him place the courage, zeal, and constancy of this man before him, and think himself sufficiently applauded and rewarded, if he obtained the character of being like Andrew Fletcher, of Saltoun.

With respect to Mr. Stewart's reference of the different cases of the sublime to the literal acceptation of the word, meaning *height* or *altitude*, I think it a beautiful illustration of Horne Tooke's philosophical etymology. Yet the *descent* of Eneas, and

of Ulysses into the *infernal* regions is one of the most sublime passages in the *Eneid*, and the *Odyssey*; and an *earth-quake* is really, and descriptively the sublimest occurrence which can happen to mortals, though it takes place *beneath our feet*.

But my purpose in writing, at present, was merely to adduce one instance of a nature scarcely referable to this literal acceptation of the term, sublime, even as the common basis of collateral associations. Perhaps the circumstance most impressively sublime, in the history of modern literature, is the impenetrable concealment, the shadows, cloud, and darkness which hang around the real author of the Letters of JUNIUS. "If I be a vain man, my vanity lies within a narrow circle. I am the depositary of my own secret, AND IT SHALL PERISH WITH ME." Such is the sentence, which, taken with all its concomitant circumstances, appears to me the most sublime in modern writ, yet without any supposable connexion with the literal import of that word.

There is, generally, one prominent quality which characterizes the style, as it often does the individual, and we can readily distinguish both in orators, and in authors, different varieties of this very same character. Thus in the *exuberance of words* common to the three, how great is the difference, and how easy the distinction between the majestic and fertilizing flow of Ciceronian diction, the ostentatious, yet elegant amplification of Pitt, and the copious barrenness of C—t—h. Thus too in the common quality of *brilliant fancy*, we can easily discriminate the antithetical style of Grattan from the efflorescent of Burke.

Far am I from confining the merits of the former, as Flood once did, to the powers of *fancy*, at a

P P

time too, when he himself must have felt, what all Ireland *then* felt, and gloried in feeling that with those powers, that orator combined not only the principles but the *flame* of public virtue, and hence it was that all Ireland admired, and loved him. "When those principles," says an eminent genius, "are in the *head* alone, they are notions, principles from which to reason, and they serve oftener to judge of the conduct of others, than to influence our own. But when they are in the *heart* too, they become sentiments, principles of action, and they unite the powers of the whole man, in pursuit of every laudable purpose."

Thus, again, in the common quality of the *SUBLIME*, we may distinguish between the concentrated energy of Tacitus, the opulent and ornate diction of Gibbon, and the inimitable stile of JUNIUS; a stile, polished, indeed so highly by art, as serves most effectually to collect and condense the rays of his genius; a rare combination of most vigorous intellect, with most exquisite taste; contemptuous of figurative language, and yet endowed "with that delicate perception of the scarcely discernible boundary which separates ornament from exuberance, and elegance from affectation;" severe even to malignity*, and gifted with a sword of sarcasm so tempered, that neither keen nor solid might resist

* Such and so great indeed is this malignity, that it may be said to insinuate somewhat of the same disposition into the reader, who, for a moment, feels himself inclined to suspect that this severe man, was in the confidence of the very ministry, whom he deemed it a duty to expose; that he compounded with his private and personal, for the sacrifice of his public and political conscience; and that had he ever made himself known, his real name would have sunk in perishable infamy, while in his assumed one, he has become immortal.

its edge; yet, with all this characteristic sublimity in the whole course of his letters, the master stroke, the crowning act of the practical sublime still remained. It was accomplished—in the impenetrable concealment of the author, mocking alike the sagacity of political spies and the futile investigations of literary curiosity; and superior not only to the temptations of popular fame while in life, but even to posthumous glory. There never has been, and relying as I do, on the sentence above cited, I am disposed to believe there never will be a revelation of this sublime mystery, hitherto unexampled in the history of literature. Their monuments remain, but the names of him who built the greatest of the Pyramids and of him who polished the periods of Junius are alike unknown.

"The other shape,
If shape it might be called, that shape had
none
Distinguishable in member, joint, or limb;
Or substance, might be called that shadow
seem'd,
For each seem'd either; black it stood as
night,
Fierce as ten furies, terrible as Hell,
AND SHOOK A DREADFUL DART.—

I am, Sir, yours,
A. P.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

CHARTER OF CARRICKFERGUS.

(Continued from page 205)

AND furthermore, of our special grace, we will, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of our town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that they, and their successors for ever, decide and distinguish themselves into divers guilds and fraternities, according to their conditions, crafts,

and mysteries, and that every such guild may have and use several affairs and marks, in note and difference of their fraternities and mysteries, and that every such guild may have, and build one distinct hall or place within the said town. Whereas the brothers of such a guild may gather themselves together, and that every such guild or fraternity, for every year, may be able and of power to elect and appoint one guardian, or master, or two guardians or masters, being of the same fraternity, to exercise the office of master or guardian for one whole year, and no more; and furthermore, we have granted unto the said mayor, sheriff, burgesses, and commonalty of Knockfergus aforesaid, and by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriff, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus, for ever, that no burgess inhabitant comorating or residing within the franchises and liberties of Knockfergus aforesaid, or any of them, at any time hereafter to come, shall be drawn or compelled to come out of the franchises and liberties of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, before us, our heirs and successors, in our chief place, or the chief places of our heirs or successors, which shall be then in Ireland, or before any our justices, barons, commoners, or other officers of our heirs or successors, whatsoever assigned and appointed to hold and keep assizes, sessions, or inquisitions, in our county of Antrim, or in any place else within our realm of Ireland, to enquire for any thing, cause, or matter, or for any things, causes, or matters whatsoever, heretofore done, perpetrated, or arisen, or hereafter to be done, perpetrated, or arising within the said town of Knockfergus, or franchises and li-

berties of the same town, although it concern or touch us, and that none of the burgesses, inhabiting, comorating, or residing within the said town, or the franchises, and liberties of the same town, at any time hereafter, may be put, empaneled, returned, or sworn, or any one of them may be put, impaneled, or sworn out of the said town of Knockfergus, and the county of the town aforesaid, for any thing, cause, or matter, or for any things or matters heretofore begun, done, happened, or grown, or hereafter to be done, perpetrated, arising or grown within the said town of Knockfergus, or within the franchises and liberties of the same, before any one justices, barons, commissioners, or any other officers, or the officers of our heirs or successors whatsoever, at any assizes or any other inquisitions whatsoever, to be taken, arraigned or returned in the said county of Antrim, or in any where else in our realm of Ireland, although it concern us only in our town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and the franchises, liberties, and county of the same, before our justices, barons, commissioners of our officers, or the justices, barons, commissioners, and officers of our heirs and successors, from time to time, as it shall seem expedient to us. Provided, notwithstanding, that the burgesses, inhabitants, comorating, or residing within the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and liberties of the same town of Knockfergus, for the other tenures of their lands and tenements without the same town, and the franchises and liberties of the same, may answer in our courts, or the courts of our heirs and successors at Dublin, or elsewhere within our realm of Ireland aforesaid, according to the laws and customs of our said realm of Ireland. Provided also, and the said mayor,

sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town of Knockfergus, for them, their heirs, and successors, do agree, grant, and promise, to us, our heirs, and successors, that all, and singular, our justices and commissioners, and the justices and commissioners of our heirs and successors, for gaol delivery, there, or for to enquire, hear and determine, all and every manner of treason, as well of the great as of the small, as of murders, burnings, felonies, imprisonments, trespasses, and of all other crimes and offences whatsoever, or sworn to hold or keep any assizes whatsoever, within the said town of Carrickfergus, or within the liberties, franchises, or county of the same town aforesaid, from time to time for ever, as often as they shall be sent or assigned by us, or by our heirs and successors, into the said town and the franchises and liberties and county of the same, they may sit in the tholseil of the said town of Knockfergus, or in any where else within the said town, and the liberties and county of the same, in what place soever they will, and there may, from time to time, execute our commissions, or the commissions of our heirs and successors in that behalf, according to the tenor and force of them. And we further will and for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the foresaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commissioners of the foresaid town, and their successors, that they, at their own pleasure, within two years next ensuing the date of these presents, may be able to ordain a certain convenient place in the same town, franchises and suburbs of the same, for a gaol or prison of the same, for the arresting or attaching of any persons, for any treasons, felonies, transgressions, misdeeds, offences, or any other matter or cause whatsoever, or to the said jail, to be

committed, and there according to the law of our realm of Ireland, safely and carefully to be imprisoned and kept until such time as according to the law and custom of our foresaid realm of Ireland, they shall be thence delivered, as also for to keep the like prisoners, or any of them, in the said prisons by themselves, or their ministers, being thus committed and imprisoned, or else according to due form of law, to deliver them, or set them at large, and that the mayor, sheriff, burgesses, and commonalty of the foresaid town, and their successors, or the greater part of them, of whom, &c. may have full power and authority to choose, nominate, constitute, and appoint one fit person of the same, from time to time, as often as it shall be needful to be keeper or constable of the said jail and that all, and every such persons thus chosen, constituted, or appointed, and no other, nor any others, shall be keepers and constables, and may have the keeping of the said gaol, or prison, and of all, and singular, the prisoners in the same, from time to time imprisoned, during the pleasure of the said mayor, sheriff, burgesses, and commonalty, and their successors, for the time being, or the greater part of them, (of whom, &c.) and that every such keeper or constable of the said jail, before he receive his said office, shall take his corporal oath, for the true and faithful administration and execution of the said office of keeper or constable of the said gaol, before the mayor and sheriff for the time being, and that every such keepers and constables of the foresaid gaol, shall have, levy, and receive, from time to time, for ever, as many fees, veils, rewards, commodities, perfitts, emoluments, and advantages, as the keepers of our gaol in the county of Antrim,

or elsewhere, are accustomed to receive levy, or have, for or by reason of his office, and that the now mayor and recorder of the same town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and all, and singular, the other mayors and recorders, which shall be for the time from thenceforth for ever hereafter, shall be our justices, and the justices of our heirs and successors, for gaol delivery in the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for felons and other prisoners remaining in the said jail, for the causes and matters aforesaid, according to the laws and customs of our realm of Ireland, as often as it shall please themselves, as also that the now mayor and recorders of the same town for the time being, may have full power and authority to do, perform, and exercise all things concerning all, and singular, the premises which any other our justices for gaol delivery within our realm of Ireland, may be able to do, perform and execute.

We have also granted for us our heirs and successors, unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty, and their successors, that they may be able within the same town, or the franchises and suburbs thereof, at their will and pleasure to build and to erect gallowses; and that may do, and execute, and be able to do full execution and judgment upon all felons and malefactors upon the same, according to the laws and customs of our realm of Ireland, without any our hindrance or impediment, or the hindrance of our heirs and successors, or any other our justices, officers, or ministers, or the justices, officers, or ministers of our heirs or successors; and furthermore, of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, with the aforesaid assent, we give and grant, for us, our heirs and successors, to the said mayor,

sheriff, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, full power and authority, from time to time, to name, choose, and appoint four serjeants, with maces, or clubs, to attend upon the mayor and sheriffs of the same town for the time being within the aforesaid town of Knockfergus, and to do and execute all summonses, distresses, attachments, and other mandates, and precepts of the court of the said town of Knockfergus, as well upon the body as otherwise, within the town and county of the town aforesaid, and the franchises and liberties of the same, by virtue of any warrant or precept, or any other process, to them, or any of them, directed, or to be directed, and to do and execute all other things whatsoever to the office of serjeant at mace doth appertain, and that one of the said serjeants from time to time shall be nominated and called the water-bailiff of the said town of Knockfergus, and that any such servitor or serjeant whatsoever, for the time being, shall be water-bailiff of the same town, shall have the only power and authority of executing and serving of all process, precept, warrant, and mandate, and of doing all other things whatsoever doth appertain to the office of water-bailiff; to be done upon the main-sea, or upon any arm of sea, or upon any part of the bay, creek, or river of Knockfergus aforesaid, between Beer lomes and Fair furlongs, near Knockfergus; and that these like officers, or ministers, thus chosen or appointed, and every of them, shall take their corporal oath, or oaths, before the mayor of the same town for the time being, to serve with their maces as water-bailiffs, as is used in the said town, or respectively in any other town in our realm of Ireland.

And we further will, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that the mayor of the same town, and his successors, for the time being, from henceforth for ever hereafter, at their own will and pleasure, so long as it shall seem fit unto the said mayor or mayors, that he or they may be able, and of power, to have a sword before him in any place whatsoever within the town of Knockfergus, and the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, carried and borne by some honest and fit man, which shall be chosen and appointed by the mayor, sheriffs, and aldermen of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, from time to time, as often as it shall be needful in the like business, after the same manner and form as is used in any other town or city before any other mayor, in any other towns or cities within our realm of Ireland, and that the said mayor, sheriff, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, by their said serjeants and water-bailiffs, or by any one or more of them, may have power and authority, to attach, arrest, and distrain the bodies of all manner of person and persons, for all manner of pleas, debts, accounts, trespasses, conventions, replevins and returns of cattle, and for ejectione firme, and all other actions personal whatsoever, within the town and county of the town of Knockfergus, and in and within the franchises and liberties of the same, as well within the inclosed and arable land as without, after what manner soever they have been done, or arising, or after any manner have been moved, or shall happen to be moved before the mayor and sheriffs of the aforesaid town for the time being.

We likewise grant for us, our heirs and successors, unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty aforesaid, their successors, for the time being, that they may have a full power and authority, from time to time for ever, at their will and pleasure, to choose, notiate, appoint, and ordain constables, and porters, and all other inferior officers and ministers, which to the mayor, sheriffs, and commonalty aforesaid, and to their successors, shall seem necessary for doing and executing the laws, businesses, and services. And that we our heirs and successors from time to time, and for ever, do allow such and the like officers thus to be elected, appointed, notiated, and constituted (as aforesaid), and by these presents do establish them in their said offices, giving, and by these presents granting unto the said officers, full power and authority of using and executing within the town and county aforesaid, and within the limits and precincts of the same, of all and every thing which doth belong or appertain to the said offices respectively to be done or executed.

And furthermore of our more abundant special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, do grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, to their successors for ever, may have a court in the said town aforesaid, and that they may be able and of power to keep the said court twice every week for ever; (to wit), every Monday and every Friday in every week in the tholseil, in the said town, or any other convenient place within the same town, without our impediment, or the impediment of our heirs and successors, or our justices, deputies, escheators, sheriffs, se-

neschals, bailiffs, or any other our ministers or officers whatsoever, or the officers and ministers of our heirs and successors, to be held before the mayor of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the time being, or his successors, or before his deputy or deputies, to hear, examine, and discuss all and all manner of actions, suits, complaints, and demands, of all and all manner of debts, to what sums or sums soever they do or shall amount unto, of all manner of trespasses, detevns., accounts, covenants, detail contracts, causes, and demands, and matters whatsoever, within the town and county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or either of them, and that the same court may be a court of record, and that all and every the mayors of the said town for the time being, and their deputies, in their several offices, and any of them, may have full power and authority and jurisdiction, to hold, hear, examine, and discuss, and end all and every the pleas and complaints aforesaid, either by our writ or writs or by the writ or writs of our heirs and successors whatsoever, or by bill or bills of complaint, or complaints whatsoever, according to the due form of law, and to proceed to judgment in and upon the same, and afterwards to do execution as it shall be consonant and agreeable to our laws. And that all and every such action, pleas, and complaint, happening or befalling within the aforesaid town, or county of the same town of Knockfergus aforesaid, done, or to be done, applied, or to be applied, in the same town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or in the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, shall be pleaded and kept before the mayor of the town aforesaid, and his successors, for the time being, in the tholsell or court-house aforesaid, and not elsewhere,

nor in any other court or courts whatsoever, nor in the court or courts of our heirs or successors whatsoever, nor before any one or any others our justice or justices, or the justice or justices of our heirs and successors, unless it be for the want of justice in that behalf there to be had.

And moreover, of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we do grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, commonalty of the aforesaid town, and to their successors, that for all and every the aforesaid actions, and complaints, and pleas, to be prosecuted and held before the mayor, process may be had or made by summons, attachment, distress, and *cupias*, or by any other processes, according to the laws of our realm of Ireland, as the cause shall require. And furthermore, of our more plentiful special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion we will and by these presents, for us, our heirs, and successors, do give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty, and to their successors for ever, that they and their successors for ever in time to come, may have, and in their own power retain, from time to time, to their own proper use and behoof all, and singular, the fines, penalties, forfeitures, and amercements, growing or arising in the said court to be held as aforesaid, before the mayor of the said town, or by reason of the aforesaid court, or in any other court or courts, held or to be held within the aforesaid town, or within the county of the aforesaid town, or within any of them, before the mayor of the aforesaid town, or before the eschevior, clerk of the market, coroners, sheriffs, or any other justices of the peace in the said county of the town aforesaid, or before our justice, or the justices of our heirs and

successors, assigned for holding assizes, and for our jail delivery, for the county of the same town, from time to time, as often as hereafter they shall sit or be appointed, together with all and singular other perquisites, profits, commodities, and emoluments, to the court or any of them, belonging or appertaining, or after any manner growing or arising from thence, without rendering any manner of accounts to us, our heirs or successors, or doing or paying any thing to us, our heirs, or successors for the same, and that they, and their successors for ever, shall have all the fines, issues, forfeitures, and amercements, belonging to our justices of the peace, within the aforesaid town, county, and liberties of the town aforesaid, or the suburbs of the same, or after any sort coming from the same, to be levied by the proper ministers, or officers, to the public good and profit of the town aforesaid.

And furthermore, of our more plentiful special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we grant, and give license to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors for ever, may have and hold twice a-year, in every half year, for ever, one court-leet or view of frankpledge, within the said town of Carrickfergus, and franchises of the same, before the recorder of the same town for the time being, or his sufficient deputy, within the month next after the feast of Easter, and within the month next after the feast of St. Michael the arch-angel, for ever, according to the laws and customs of our realm of Ireland, or of our realm of England, there to be held, and that they, and their successors, within

the same town and franchises liberties of the same, and within county of the same town, may the assize of buying bread and of all other victuals vend whatsoever, as also the correction and punishment of them, or of them in the same court, and and whatever other things which doth appertain, or ought, or appertain to a court leet or view of frank-pledge, and that the recorder of the town for the time being, or his deputy as aforesaid, may do, order, and execute in the said court leet, all and every thing whatsoever which may, ought, or is accustomed to be done, ordered, executed in any other court or view of frank-pledge within our realm of Ireland, by the laws and customs of our realm of Ireland, aforesaid, and also that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may have and retain their own proper use, and behoof all the issues, profits, perquisites, fines, punishments, redemption forfeitures, amercements, hereafter to be forfeited, or set down in all and singular such court-leet or view of frankpledge for the better maintenance and building of the walls of the town aforesaid,

And we also further grant, for us our heirs and successors, unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and to their successors, all goods and chattels waived, strayed, and escaped, happening and arising within the aforesaid town, and in and within the franchises, liberties, and county of the same, and the premises of them, or any of them, and all the goods and chattels of all manner of felons and fugitives, and convicted, attainted, outlawed, and condemned, and felo's de se, deodands, and all wrecks of the sea, as by

happening, found, or to be
 and, within the Beer loomes and
 farlongs, and within the town
 county of the town aforesaid,
 the franchises and liberties of
 same, and the premises of them
 any of them for ever, (except
 in the point or creek within the
 of Belfast aforesaid or the li-
 ties of the same), without ren-
 ding account or giving any thing
 our heirs or successors for the
 e, and that without the distur-
 bance, molestation, violence, grie-
 vance of us, our heirs, or successors,
 our justices, escheators, sheriffs,
 clerks, or other our officers or mini-
 sters, or the officers or ministers of
 our heirs or successors whatsoever.

And furthermore, of our more
 special grace, certain know-
 ledge, and mere motion, for us, our
 heirs and successors, we give and
 grant unto the said mayor, burge-
 sses, and commonalty of Knockfer-
 gus aforesaid, and to their succes-
 sors, that they, and their succes-
 sors for ever, may have within the
 said town of Knockfergus, and the
 liberties and franchises of the same
 town, a staple of merchants in as
 ample manner and form to all in-
 tents and purposes as the citizens of
 our city of Dublin hath, or doth en-
 joy the same in the said city of Dub-
 lin, and that every mayor of the said
 town of Knockfergus, for and dur-
 ing the year next following the ex-
 piration of his office of mayor of the
 same town, shall be mayor of the
 staple of the same town of Knockfer-
 gus, and that two others of the bur-
 gesses of the same town, whom the
 mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and com-
 monalty of the same town shall
 choose, shall be constables of the
 staple of the aforesaid town for the
 same year, and that the said mayor,
 and constables for the time being,
 shall have full power and authority
 during their foresaid offices, to exe-
 cute, take, and certify all recogni-

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zance of the staple, to hold all pleas
 of the staple, and to do all other
 things appertaining or necessary for
 the office of mayor and constables of
 the staple within the same town of
 the franchises of the same, in as
 ample manner, and form to all in-
 tents and purposes as the mayor and
 constables of the staple of the city
 of Dublin, notwithstanding the sta-
 tute of staple, made in a parliament
 held in the 27th year of the reign of
 Edward the third, some time king
 of England, or any other statute,
 act, ordinance, restraint, cause, pro-
 vision, or matter whatsoever, to the
 contrary notwithstanding. And for
 that, it may very often happen to
 fall out that the mayor of the town
 aforesaid, for the time being, to be
 absent without the said town, or to
 be feeble or weak, or detained with
 any sickness within the same town,
 we, willing to extend a more plen-
 tiful favour upon the said mayor,
 sheriffs, burgesses, and commonal-
 ty of the town of Knockfergus out
 of our special grace, certain know-
 ledge, and mere motion, we will,
 and by these presents for us, our
 heirs and successors, do give and
 grant unto the said Robert Lyndon,
 and to his successors, mayors of the
 town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for
 the time being, that they, and their
 successors, or any one of them, may be
 able and of power, whensoever, and
 as often as it shall seem expedient unto
 them, or to any or either of them, with
 the consent and assent of the greater
 number of the aldermen of the town
 aforesaid, for the time being, to
 nominate, make, substitute, and ap-
 point and depute one of the alder-
 men of the same town for the time
 being, to be his deputy and under-
 mayor of the town of Knockfergus
 aforesaid, in the absence of such
 mayors whatsoever, did make his de-
 puty or under-mayor as aforesaid, to
 exercise and execute all things whatso-
 ever doth appertain to the office of may-

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successors, assigned for holding assizes, and for our jail delivery, for the county of the same town, from time to time, as often as hereafter they shall sit or be appointed, together with all and singular other perquisites, profits, commodities, and emoluments, to the court or any of them, belonging or appertaining, or after any manner growing or arising from thence, without rendering any manner of accounts to us, our heirs or successors, or doing or paying any thing to us, our heirs, or successors for the same, and that they, and their successors for ever, shall have all the fines, issues, forfeitures, and amercements, belonging to our justices of the peace, within the aforesaid town, county, and liberties of the town aforesaid, or the suburbs of the same, or after any sort coming from the same, to be levied by the proper ministers, or officers, to the public good and profit of the town aforesaid.

And furthermore, of our more plentiful special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we grant, and give license to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors for ever, may have and hold twice a-year, in every half year, for ever, one court-leet or view of frankpledge, within the said town of Carrickfergus, and franchises of the same, before the recorder of the same town for the time being, or his sufficient deputy, within the month next after the feast of Easter, and within the month next after the feast of St. Michael the arch-angel, for ever, according to the laws and customs of our realm of Ireland, or of our realm of England, there to be held, and that they, and their successors, within

the same town and franchises and liberties of the same, and within the county of the same town, may have the assize of buying bread and ale, and of all other victuals vendable whatsoever, as also the correction and punishment of them, or any of them in the same court, and all, and whatever other things which doth appertain, or ought, or may appertain to a court leet or view of frank-pledge, and that the recorder of the town for the time being, or his deputy as aforesaid, may do, order, and execute in the same court leet, all and every thing whatsoever which may, ought, or is accustomed to be done, ordered, or executed in any other court or view of frank-pledge within our realm of Ireland, by the laws and customs of our realm of Ireland, aforesaid, and also that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, may have and retain to their own proper use, and behoof all the issues, profits, perquisites, fines, punishments, redemptions, forfeitures, amercements, hereafter to be forfeited, or set down in all and singular such court-leet or view of frankpledge for the better maintenance and building of the walls of the town aforesaid,

And we also further grant, for us our heirs and successors, unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and to their successors, all goods and chattels waived, strayed, and escaped, happening and arising within the aforesaid town, and in and within the franchises, liberties, and county of the same, and the premises, of them, or any of them, and all the goods and chattels of all manner of felons and fugitives, and convicted, attainted, outlawed, and condemned, and felo's de se, deodands, and all wrecks of the sea, as by

and happening, found, or to be found, within the Beer loomes and Fair furlongs, and within the town and county of the town aforesaid, and the franchises and liberties of the same, and the premises of them or any of them for ever, (except within the point or creek within the town of Belfast aforesaid or the liberties of the same), without rendering account or giving any thing to our heirs or successors for the same, and that without the disturbance, molestation, violence, grievance of us, our heirs, or successors, of our justices, escheators, sheriffs, bailiffs, or other our officers or ministers, or the officers or ministers of our heirs or successors whatsoever.

And furthermore, of our more ample special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant unto the said mayor, burgesses, and commonalty of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that they, and their successors for ever, may have within the said town of Knockfergus, and the liberties and franchises of the same town, a staple of merchants in as ample manner and form to all intents and purposes as the citizens of our city of Dublin hath, or doth enjoy the same in the said city of Dublin, and that every mayor of the said town of Knockfergus, for and during the year next following the expiration of his office of mayor of the same town, shall be mayor of the staple of the same town of Knockfergus, and that two others of the burgesses of the same town, whom the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the same town shall choose, shall be constables of the staple of the aforesaid town for the same year, and that the said mayor, and constables for the time being, shall have full power and authority during their foresaid offices, to execute, take, and certify all recogni-

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zance of the staple, to hold all pleas of the staple, and to do all other things appertaining or necessary for the office of mayor and constables of the staple within the same town of the franchises of the same, in as ample manner, and form to all intents and purposes as the mayor and constables of the staple of the city of Dublin, notwithstanding the statute of staple, made in a parliament held in the 27th year of the reign of Edward the third, some time king of England, or any other statute, act, ordinance, restraint, cause, provision, or matter whatsoever, to the contrary notwithstanding. And for that, it may very often happen to fall out that the mayor of the town aforesaid, for the time being, to be absent without the said town, or to be feeble or weak, or detained with any sickness within the same town, we, willing to extend a more plentiful favour upon the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus out of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant unto the said Robert Lyndon, and to his successors, mayors of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, for the time being, that they, and their successors, or any one of them, may be able and of power, whensoever, and as often as it shall seem expedient unto them, or to any one either of them, with the consent and assent of the greater number of the aldermen of the town aforesaid, for the time being, to nominate, make, substitute, and appoint and depute one of the aldermen of the same town for the time being, to be his deputy and under-mayor of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, in the absence of such mayors whatsoever, did make his deputy or under-mayor as aforesaid, to exercise and execute all things whatsoever doth appertain to the office of may-

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or of the town aforesaid, and to the office of escheator, say-master, and clerk of the market of the town aforesaid, as hereafter shall appertain to be done, exercised, or executed.

And furthermore, we give and grant by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, to the said deputies or under-mayors for the time being, so constituted, nominated, and deputed, and to any one of them full and absolute power and authority to do, exercise, and execute, and to every of them so nominated, appointed, and constituted as aforesaid, may be able to do, exercise, and execute in and during the absence of the said mayor all and every thing whatsoever doth or shall appertain or belong to the office and place of mayor of the town aforesaid, or to the office of escheator, say-master, and clerk of the market of the town aforesaid, or the county of the town aforesaid, or either of them in as ample manner and form, and as fully and wholly as if the mayor of the town aforesaid, for the time being, were present, as the mayor of the aforesaid town, or as the escheator, say-master, or clerk of the market of the aforesaid town, could do, exercise, and execute, having first taken the oath of such an under-mayor before the mayor of the town aforesaid, and four aldermen of the same town will faithfully and justly to do and execute all things whatsoever doth belong and appertain to the said offices or any of them.

And furthermore, of our mere ample special grace, and of our certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors for

ever, may have their fishing in the water or river of Knockfergus, in as ample manner and form as ever they have had, or heretofore were accustomed to have in time of our predecessors kings and queens of England.

And furthermore, plentiful special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus, aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors for ever, may have and hold two markets within the aforesaid town of Knockfergus in every week in the manner and form following, that is to say, that they and their successors may have and hold one of the said two markets on every saturday, there to be held for ever.

And moreover, that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town, and their successors, may have and hold yearly for ever, two chief markets or fairs, in some convenient place within the said town, or in the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and the premises of the same, that is to say, one of the chief markets or fairs to be held in some certain convenient place within the said town, or in the county of the said town of Knockfergus, every year on the feast of St. Philip and Jacob the apostles, and for two days next after following the same feast day of Philip and Jacob and the other of the said chief markets or fairs to be kept in some certain convenient place of the foresaid town of Knockfergus, or in the town or county of Knockfergus, every year on the feast of All-saints, and for two days next following the feast of All-saints, for every year to be held and

continued, so as the feast of St. Philip and Jacob and of All-saints do not fall, nor any of them doth fall on Saturday or Sunday, and as often as the said feasts do fall, or any of them doth fall on Saturday or Sunday as aforesaid, that then the Monday next after the foresaid feasts, or any of them, and for two days from thence next following to be continued for ever, together with a pie-poudre* court in the said markets and fairs, or in any of them, to be held with all other tolls, liberties, and free customs, profits, advantages, commodities, and emoluments, to the like markets or fairs, or markets aforesaid, after any manner appertaining or belonging, so as the said markets or

* Pie-poudre is an old French lawphrase, signifying "dusty feet." It is applied to the jurisdiction given by some charters to determine, in a summary manner, causes of complaint, arising in a fair, the examinations, and decisions, on which were to be so speedy before the termination of the fair, that the complainants appeared with dusty-feet, or without previous preparation.

fairs be not, nor any of them be the annoyance or hurt of the neighbouring markets or fairs, or any of them; wherefore, we do, will, grant, and firmly command to be enjoyed by us, our heirs and successors, by these presents, that the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town of Knockfergus and their successors for ever, may have and hold the said markets, and chief markets or fairs in the place in the manner and form aforesaid in the place for ever, with all the liberties and free customs, as also with all profits, revenues, advantages, commodities, and emoluments, after any manner appertaining or belonging to such like markets, chief markets or fairs, without rendering account or paying any thing to us, our heirs or successors, for the same, so as the foresaid markets, chief markets or fairs, be not, nor any of them be, to the annoyance or hurt of the neighbour markets, chief-markets, or fairs.

(To be Concluded in our next.)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF MADAME DE STAHL.

"O! woman! in our hours of ease,
Uncertain, coy, and hard to please,
And variable as the shade,
By the light, quivering aspen made:
When pain and anguish wring the brow,
A ministering angel thou."—

SCOTT'S MARMION.

MADAME DE STAHL's history is the reverse of what is generally found in romances, where the heroine from a cottage is raised to high rank. Her misfortunes greatly contributed to her reputation. She received an excellent education, and from it she derived noble sentiments, and a love of virtue, which, by long

hab'it became natural to her. Her father was obliged to remove to England, and her mother remained in France. The want of means of subsistence, induced Madame de Launay too look out for a retreat for herself and her little daughter, which she obtained in the Abbey of St. Sauveur. Madame de la Rochefoucault, the Abbess, generously admitted her without any expense. The nuns, having no employment, fell into that lassitude which fastens on the first object of amusement, and they loved Mademoiselle de Launay with that vehemence, which leisure and solitude communicate to sentiments of all kinds. Though only in

her third year, she said some things which, on account of her age, were thought witticisms. The Abbess was sister to the witty Duke de Rochefoucault, and had herself a great share of that talent; but wit is no preservative against whims, and Mademoiselle de Launay gained her favour by a very trifling incident. "The apartment of the Abbess," says she, "was an infirmary of sick dogs: Here lay the lame, and the incurable. None of any beauty were admitted as patients, the lady well knowing that there would be doors enough open for their relief. One day, just as we were sitting down to supper, I happened to tread on the foot of one of these poor creatures. The Abbess reddened with anger, and a kind person next to whom I was placed, whispered to me to ask pardon. Not comprehending that she was the party offended; I got down from my chair, and went and kneeled before the dog which I had hurt, and, it seems, made my excuse very movingly. This took effect, and placed me high in her favour. The nuns used to divert themselves, in chatting with me. Indeed my understanding was clearer than is usual at such an age. This may be said without vanity, as children, from being accounted prodigies of wit, are known to degenerate into monstrous stupidity."

These happy qualities were cultivated by all the instructions of which her age was capable. She associated with grown up persons, who knew enough to answer all she could ask, and she was perpetually teizing them with questions. Instead of being lulled asleep with tales, her head was furnished with the elements of history, which was so well arranged, that she frequently quoted passages to good purpose. Such aptitude increased the attention of the ladies who interfered in her education.

The Dutchess of Ventadour made

Madame de Launay an offer of being governess to her only daughter, but this kind of life, and especially the inclinations of her pupil being incompatible with her rigid ideas of devotion, she left the place, and after a year's absence, was joyfully received at the convent. Mademoiselle de Grieu, one of the nuns, having been appointed to the Priory of St. Lewis at Rouen, took Mademoiselle de Launay with her. She was overjoyed to see new objects; and still more, when she arrived at St. Lewis. The convent of St. Lewis was now a little state where she reigned supreme. The chief care of the Abbess and her sister was to please her. No less than four sisters attended her, and the roivings of her giddy fancy kept them all sufficiently employed. When checked in nothing, we desire a great deal. She loved reading; and, as the convent library consisted only of devotional books; she every day employed some hours in reading them. She got some romances, which made such impression on her mind, that she did not feel such strong emotion under her own real adventures as she did for those of the fictitious persons there exhibited. She was seriously told to forbear reading those seductive books: and she obeyed so punctually, that though she had stopped in the height of a most striking incident, she would not proceed to the unravelling of it, and withstood many solicitations to read it privately.

In her studies she perceived the inconvenience of not being acquainted with geometry, and immediately began to study it, which afforded her very useful amusement. The convent of St. Lewis was in bad circumstances, at the time of Madame de Grieu's being made Abbess, and a famine, with which France was visited some years after, reduced it to the lowest misery. The

nuns became discontented, and cabals were soon formed. The Archbishop of Rouen visited the Abbey, and after hearing the many general complaints, declared that Madame de Grieu must either resign the Abbey, or dismiss Mademoiselle de Launay. "I found no way," says she, "to bear the expectation of such a sentence, but by arresting the agitation of my mind, by an intense application to abstract matters; and I believe by early custom, this so beneficent expedient might be improved to a habit, and thus we may save ourselves a great deal of fruitless disquietude. Malice so on informed me of his grace's determination. The grief of the Abbess and her sister dulled all sense of my own. At last after a long consultation, the Abbess concluded that she would offer to resign the temporal concerns of her house, producing accounts in proof of her care and rectitude, and live with her sister, her nieces and me on her allowance from her family, without taking a single louis* from her benefice."

Thus some years passed quietly, till Mademoiselle de Silly, one of the convent boarders, was sent to visit her father at his seat, in Lower Normandy. Mademoiselle de Launay was seized with the small-pox—she was not concerned either for her life, or her face: the pain was all, and that did not prevent her from desiring to be removed, that no one might suffer from contagion.

The Abbess, though extremely unwilling to part with her, consented to let her spend some time with Mademoiselle de Silly. She arrived at a very handsome seat, something melancholy and ancient, like its owner. "The old Marquis," says she, "was averse to expense, and the

Marchioness, too devout for much visiting; so that for some time I only saw two or three neighbouring gentlemen of whom I had scarce taken any notice till the Chevalier D'Herb came. After a party at ombre, he went away, promising to return and make some stay. I felt that I wished he might come again, and on enquiring into the cause, I said to myself that he was a man of wit and agreeable conversation, much to be wished for in such a lonely place: on examining what grounds I had for my opinion of his wit, and carefully recollecting what he had said, I found only, *Gano, three Matadores, and sans Prendre**. At his second visit, when he talked more, this supposed wit vanished. He came frequently, and Mademoiselle de Silly and I judged that one of us had pleased him, but which was not easily discernible. I betted on her side and she on mine; it became a business to both, to discover whose was this conquest; a very slender one indeed; but in solitude objects become inflated, like things put into an exhausted recipient. This contest went no further than pleasantries, yet on hearing that he had formally declared himself, and that it was not for me, I felt a vexation which I did not at first know what to make of. After spending five or six months at Silly, I returned to the convent after promising to return to Silly the next year. This the Marchioness was the more desirous of, as she expected her son to spend the summer there, and with some company he would not be so soon tired of the country. He had been one of the prisoners taken at the battle of Hochstet, and brought to England, where, being threatened with symptoms of a pulmonary consumption, he was allowed to return to France on parole. I met

* A gold coin worth about twenty shillings.

* Card terms.

Mademoiselle D'Epinay, I generally walked home to the convent, Monsieur de Rey, who seldom failed being there, handed me home. In the way was a large square, and in the beginning of our acquaintance, he constantly kept along the side of it, whereas he now crossed it; whence I concluded his love to be diminished, at least the whole difference of the diagonal to the two sides of the square."

Mademoiselle de Launay was impatient for the time of returning to Silly, though since the torture of mind she had undergone, from the preference given to her old acquaintance there, her love for her was not quite so passionate. Shortly after the young Marquis arrived. He was at first very reserved and spoke little: his books were his companions. When he did speak, his wit and sense appeared, without any design of his to show them. His sister who had seen him more sociable, was offended at his reserve. "One day," says Mademoiselle de Launay, "walking in a wood, where we imagined ourselves alone, we gave full vent to our indignation; but though unperceived by us, he was so near as to over-hear us. Thus he came to know our undisguised sentiments. On our return to the house, he said to us that he had heard a great deal of ill spoken of him, and not in jest. "Whoever complains of you," answered I, "cannot be in a jocular humour;" this answer pleased him. "So," replied he, "I find in the vale of Auge, what I little expected." He then owned the pleasure with which he had heard our talk, though we had not spared with a joyful reception at the convent, and frequently saw Monsieur de Rey, who still showed a great regard for me, yet from some slight circumstances, I discerned some decrease in his sentiments, when I visited

him. Since that time he thought us worthy of his company, walking, reading, every thing was now in common."

The Marquis de Silly was obliged to go to court sooner than he wished, as he was not tired of being at home where he found, what he had seldom seen in the world, artless sentiments; he also enjoyed solid conversations, which offered new subjects of science to his mind; his ideas were clear and lively, his expressions simple and noble. Nothing affected, nothing forced ever appeared in his behaviour; he had too much wit to think of showing it; war was his passion, and his attention was fixed on whatever related to it. Ambition was the main-spring of the motions of his soul, and possibly had obscured some of his virtues; it caused his errors and misfortunes. He had perceived how liable Mademoiselle de Launay was to be in love, and from a fear of giving her an opportunity of explaining her sentiments, he was very cautious of finding her alone; she though firmly determined not to say any thing to him, passionately wished for this meeting, which he so much avoided. She wished to show him how very far she was from forgetting what she owed to herself. This satisfaction at length she had in one of their usual walks. Mademoiselle de Silly excused herself as indisposed: the Marchioness, who in all things consulted her son's amusement, bid Mademoiselle de Launay go with him; there was now no receding. They walked to some distance, and he was much more uneasy than she was; he spoke not a word. This little triumph opened her mouth. At first she took notice how delightful the country looked, but this not being far enough from the topics, she was for avoiding, she soared up among the celestial bodies, and ranged through

the whole system of nature. In this lofty region she firmly kept herself, till their return home. The Marquis cured of his disquietude, civilly joined in the conversation; which, though the subject was serious, had been carried on with sprightliness and pleasantry. One advantage she reaped from it was, that he saw she knew how to speak, and to be silent. His departure to court, though it was not to be without a return, gave her a very sensible grief.

In the beginning of winter she returned to the convent, and to give some variety to her thoughts, began to write tales and romances, introducing several pictures of the same original. These tales served instead of confidants, the use of whom she always thought both abject and dangerous.

The old Marquis de Silly died, and Mademoiselle de Launay was not reminded of her promise of returning to Silly house. This circumstance provoked her, and to divert her attention she went to visit Mademoiselle de la Ferté, niece to the president of the parliament of Rouen. Monsieur de la Ferté's house was about four leagues from Silly; it was an old seat of an odd figure, like a gothic R, as many of the ancient seats in Normandy had been built in the shape of the first letter of the owners name. The surrounding country was extremely beautiful and picturesque. Although the situation of her mind was melancholy, she was delighted with her visit; yet she never lost sight of the object which had made her take this journey. Being determined to visit Silly, she prevailed on the Marchioness de Silly to promise to send her carriage to meet her, but she was so eager to go, that she set off in the Caen-stage, leaving Mademoiselle de la Ferté overwhelmed with grief for her departure. She was mortified to find by the

conversation of the passengers that the Marquis de Silly had gone to Versailles. She was now on the road to see one whom she would not find, and before she could fix on any plan to adopt, she found herself at St. Pierre sur Dive, where the coach stopped for the night. "Here," says she, "was I at an inn, without acquaintance or relations. I had only a little foot-boy. The frightfulness of the place, and being alone threw me into a trouble, beyond more considerable incidents of my life, because when they happened they were less disproportionate to my degree of strength; courage is of very slow growth in a conventual education.

When I was a little come to myself, I asked how far it was to Silly house; I was informed I had passed it only by a league, and that from the place I was, no carriage could go thither, and I must either take a horse or go to Caen which was four leagues further. Had I been told I must get upon a Dromedary, I could not have been more frightened. However, at day-break, I was put upon horse-back, but more like a bundle than a living creature, the foot-boy who had followed me, leading the horse by the bridle. Our guide lost his way, and we were obliged to leave the horse at a brook; and the rest of the way I walked amidst a heavy rain, in the Pays D'Auge, so famous for dirty roads. At length I reached Silly-house, all over mud, and such a figure that it was some satisfaction to be in no danger of meeting the Marquis. A thousand excuses were made for not sending me word of the disappointment, but the Marquis de Silly's departure was so precipitate, as not to admit of moment's delay. I feigned myself pleased, although little cause I had, and soon returned to Monsieur de la Ferté's at Rouen, and from thence to Rouen, where I found every thing as I had left it, except

the sudden death of Monsieur de Rey. Although I had never loved him, and his love for me had been at an end, it gave me a very sensible concern."

The remainder of the year she spent very quietly in the convent. The Abbess was seized with a dangerous illness which terminated in death in a few days. She was a very amiable character, such a fund of real goodness, so much sweetness, so much concern for others and neglect of herself, and such punctuality and attention to all her duties, were rarely combined in an Abbess.

Madame de Grieu had always lived with her sister the Abbess, and the Abbey was by right hers, but the former cabals were again in motion; she might have removed to the Abbey of Jouarre as a nun, but she would not forsake Mademoiselle de Launay, and a young niece who was equally dear to her. She accordingly removed with them to a convent in Paris, until something more advantageous might offer. Mademoiselle de Launay found the necessity of strengthening her mind with steady principles. She determined, rather than be a burden to her friends, to bear penury or seek a service; for certainly it is only by our personal behaviour that we are debased; we frequently sink under want, not so much from its weight as our own weakness; yet, not to be extreme in her firmness, she accepted of ten pistoles from a female friend. She now began to find a change in her situation, hitherto she had always lived where she was the chief object of attention, and where every trifle, if it concerned her, made an event. One day she had an head-ache—this formerly would have set the whole house in a bustle, abbess, sisters, and maids, now she was merely asked if she wanted any thing.

"At length Mademoiselle de Launay went to reside at the convent of Presentation*, where she had no sufficient to pay a quarter's allowance. "A little before the tin was expired," says she, "I was taken so ill that I had some hopes of dying, but I was disappointed. Or never dies in the right time. When I was recovering, my sister, who lived with the Duchess de la Ferté came to see me, and with great transports of joy, congratulated me on the fortune which she imagined was now before me. She told me that going to Versailles with the Duchess de la Ferté, she had mentioned me and said that I knew all that could be known, and enumerated to her Grace the sciences, of which she imagined I was mistress of. The Duchess being ignorant, thought I was a prodigy. In the whole world there was not a person more ardent in her fancies. She arrived at Versailles with her mind full of this supposed prodigy, which she spoke of in all companies, and especially at Madame de Ventadour's† her sister. Her imagination became inflamed by the warmth of her elocution, and she said a hundred things more than had been told her. My sister after this narrative, told me that I must by all means wait upon her lady and thank her: I was not mistress of a gown fit to make my appearance in, but borrowed one from a convent boarder for a few hours. We got to the Duchess just at her awakening. She was delighted at the sight of me, and said a thousand things in my praise. After a few questions on her side, and some plain, and possibly insipid answer on mine; "Bless me," says she, "never creature talked so

*An order of nuns established in France in 1627.

† Then governess to Lewis the fifteenth.

finely ! She comes just in the nick of time to write a letter for me to Monsieur Desmarests which I must send him immediately. Come Mademoiselle, some paper shall be brought to you, and you need only write." "But what shall I write Madam?" answered I, much out of countenance, "You may give it what turn you please ; it must be right : I insist on his complying with what I ask." But Madame, replied I, "still I should know what you would say to him." "No, no, you understand me." What could I gather from such a vague sallies ? but it was in vain to insist on any further explanation ? At last, connecting the broken sentences which came from her, I guessed the matter in hand. At length I finished the letter, and with a palpitating heart for the success of it, went and delivered it to her. "Well," cried she, "this is just the whole of what I was for saying to him ; 'tis really strange she should hit my thoughts so well. Hetty your sister is a surprizing girl. Oh ! since she has such a knack at writing I must have another letter to my steward that may be despatched while I dress." "There was no asking a second time what she intended to say. A torrent of words issued from her mouth with a rapidity, which all my attention could not keep pace with ; I was still more embarrassed with this second essay. She had named her Counsellor and Attorney, who constituted a part of this letter. They were both utterly unknown to me and unfortunately I took the name of the one for that of the other. "The business is well conched," said she after reading my letter," but how could a girl of your wit, call my Counsellor by the Attorney's name?" By this she discovered the limits of my genius ; yet by good fortune, it did not en-

tirely lose me in her esteem. By the time I had finished these dispatches, she was dressed, and in a hurry to be at Versailles. I followed her to the coach, and when she had seated herself, and my sister whom she took with her, had got in.—"Suppose," said she to my sister, "I should take her with us ? Come in Mademoiselle, I'll show you to Madame de Ventadour." This order was a thunder-clap to me, but the time for having a will of my own, and opposing that of others, was now over. After asking me innumerable questions ; "to be sure," said she, "as you know so many things, you understand casting a nativity ; there is nothing in my mind comes up to that." I told her that I had not the least idea of the science. "And why," said she "learn so many which are of no use?" I assured her that I had never learned any, but without minding me she was now running on in praise of geomancy, chiromancy, &c. related to me several predictions concerning herself, which, she was sure would be accomplished, her last night's dream and other equally important incidents. I listened to the whole with great submission, but little faith. I was introduced to Madame de Ventadour, who received me with all imaginable condescension, she talked to me about my mother who had been governess to her daughter, and her intention of finding me a suitable place. The Dutchess de la Ferté had made such a stir about me that I was become an object of curiosity. A thousand people flocking about me, to have a sight of me, and to ask me questions." "Here Madam," said the Dutchess de la Ferté to the Dutchess de Noailles, introducing Mademoiselle de Launay, "is the person I was speaking to you of, who has so much wit, and knows so

many things. Come, Mademoiselle, speak; you'll see Madam how she talks." Perceiving that Mademoiselle de Launay hesitated, she thought of assisting her, as the beginning of a song is sometimes hummed over to a different singer, she added, "Let us have a word or two about religion, and then you shall talk of something else. This ridiculous scene was repeated in other houses, and I had to be exhibited like a monkey which shows tricks at a fair."

Shortly after the Dutchess du Maine* persuaded Mademoiselle de Launay, to accept a place in her establishment. The exaltation of the Dutchess' family was then at the highest point; since her marriage with the Duke du Maine, by her active solicitude in procuring for him a rank equal to her own, they had gradually attained all the honours of the princes of the royal blood, and she availed herself of some favourable occurrences to obtain that famous edict, which entitled them and their descendants to the succession. The precipitate loss of so many of the princes of the blood, had produced and facilitated that scheme which was then executed without any contradiction, and afterwards occasioned such animosities. But her prosperity, blinding the catastrophe to which it led, made her court a brilliant scene of joy and festivity.

Lewis XIV dying on the first of September, the assembly of the parliament, was held the next day. The king directed by his will a regency, specifying the members and nominating the Duke d'Orleans, president. Every thing was to be decided by a majority of votes; to this assembly was committed the tutelage of the young king; the superintendence of his education &c. to the Duke du Maine†. This au-

thority would have given him great power if he had retained it, but the power of kings, however despotic, does not reach beyond the grave.

The woman whose business was to tell the Dutchess du Maine stories until she fell asleep, being ill, Mademoiselle de Launay was appointed to read in her place. "The Dutchess being mortified that the Duke d'Orleans should have so much power," says Mademoiselle de Launay, "determined to apply to the king of Spain, to require a meeting of the states of France, to enquire into the conduct of the Duke D'Orleans. The regent having been informed of this application the Dutchess received positive advice, from more than one quarter, that she was to be taken into custody. She used often to talk to me, and would say that whatever place she was carried to, she would ask that I should go with her. This, if matters came to that melancholy pass, was what I most passionately wished. We both thought that, considering her rank, the place of confinement would be one of the royal seats, with a suitable retinue. It was not in nature to imagine any thing of the harsh treatment she afterwards went through. I was under this melancholy expectation, when one evening, being fatigued both in body and mind, I threw myself on a couch in my chamber and fell asleep. In the midst of my nap I was aroused by a woman, who told me in haste that her mistress sent her to inform me that the Dutchess du Maine was to be arrested that night. These words quite dispelled my somnolency, and I found that she was sent by the Marchioness de Lambert, so famous for the purity of her morals, and the sublimity of her intellects, and than whom the Dutchess du Maine had not a firmer friend, though in this affair she had not shared her confidence. Without loss of time, I in-

* Daughter of the prince of Condé, commonly called the Great Condé.

† An illegitimate son to Lewis XIV.

formed the Dutchess, but she was so little concerned, as to turn it into a subject of jocularity; at length she requested me to read to her, in order to put her asleep. I took Machiavel's *Decades*, and folded down at the chapter, of *Conspiracies*. I shewed it to her, and she smiling said, "Away with this evidence against us, it would be one of the strongest." Our expectations this time were premature; the morning came, and matters still remained in *statu quo*. Some measures, which remained to be taken, obliged the regent to defer the execution of his designs for some days. Four or five days had passed away pretty quietly, and after having employed part of the night in discoursing to me, the Dutchess fell asleep at six o'clock in the morning, and I withdrew. I was just beginning to dose, when I heard the door open, I imagined that the Dutchess had sent for me again, and, half awake, said, "who is there?" an unknown voice answered, "I come in the king's name." I was at no loss about his meaning, and he ordered me in no very mannerly accent to get up. I obeyed without reply. It was the 29th of December, before day break, but when they brought a candle I perceived my company to be, an officer of the guards, and two musqueteers; the officer read an order for guarding me in sight. The whole house swarmed with guards and musqueteers. I was under horrible distress of mind about the Dutchess du Maine, doing myself the honour to look upon this visit to me, only as a consequence of that princess being put under arrest. My guards would not gratify my affectionate solicitude about her, I only knew that the Lieutenant of the life guards had brought the king's warrant for carrying her to prison, to which she submitted with the most amiable serenity."

The Captain of the life guards left the Dutchess du Maine at Essonne, from whence she was taken to Dijon citadel. This was a reverse of fortune for a princess accustomed to splendour and homage, always surrounded by friends and dependents, and who thought herself alone when she was not in a croud of servile flatterers. The Duke du Maine was taken to the Citadel of Dourlans in Piccardy.

At seven o'clock in the evening, Mademoiselle de Launay was taken to the Bastile. After crossing several draw-bridges, she was brought to a large chamber, whose walls was covered with inscriptions written with charcoal, expressing the very opposite sentiments and condition of the former occupiers. A little rush chair was brought her to sit down; two stones for supporting a fire which was kindled, and her light was a small candle end stuck against the wall. All these *conveniences* having been provided, the governor withdrew, which was followed by the harsh noise of five or six large rusty locks, and twice the number of bolts. The governor at length permitted Rondle, (a woman who always attended her at Seaux) to go to the Bastile; "she related," says Mademoiselle de Launay, "all that she had heard and seen, the day I was taken into custody; when she had finished her story I made her begin again that my attention might be diverted. Several days passed and I waited with anxiety for the time that I should be examined. I used to prepare answers for every thing that could be said to me. I believe I had collected enough to make a pretty sizeable volume; but except the exercise of my genius, I might as well have been unemployed. The governor of the Bastile sent me a pack of cards, and some volumes of Cleopatra. With this trash I wiled away the time till some-

thing better should come, and played at picquet with Rondle. Being, at my departure, taken up with other thoughts than about what I might want, I now found the disagreeable effects of this absence of mind, for at the end of a few days I found myself in want of every thing."

She was in some respects, in a worse situation than the heroine of a romance, when she elopes from her friends, as she had not a change of clothes, nor the usual resource, a *casket of jewels*, with which these imaginary and illustrious personages are always provided. She was shut up in the Bastille, debarred from all intercourse with her friends, and had reason to fear real misfortunes; the heroine of a romance always finds some means of escape.

....."Let solid walls impound
The captive fair, and dig a moat around;
Let there be brazen locks and bars of steel,
And keepers cruel, such as never feel;
With not a single note the purse supply,
And when she begs let men and maids
deny;
Be windows those from which she dares
not fall,
And help so distant that she dare not call;
Still means of freedom will some power
devise,
And from the baffled ruffian snatch the
prize."

CRABBE'S BOROUGH.

Mademoiselle de Launay's greatest alarm was lest she should be put to torture to force her to confess. She could not avoid anticipating this misfortune as she dreaded the force of excessive torture against the strongest resolution. Before she had got over her fears she was called upon in order to be interrogated by the commissioners. After innumerable questions were asked, she was permitted to retire without betraying any confusion or fear. In her confinement she seemed to be quite free from that lassitude, which is so much dreaded under confinement, by feeling so much agitation and

fear in the first part of her imprisonment, and when tranquillity began to dawn she excluded ennui by a variety of occupations and amusements. After intense reading she relaxed her mind by more trifling pursuits; by this means she found that what renders insipid the most spirited diversions of those trifling characters, whose lives are but a round of indulgence and pleasure, is that with them they lose the genuine effect of relieving the mind or body when wearied.

Mademoiselle de Launay was pretty well informed of every thing that passed out of the Bastille, though this was generally a source of additional torture. News, on which prisoners feed with such avidity, is poison to them—they come to a knowledge of a part, and remain ignorant of the other. The happiest condition to them is absolute ignorance of all that passes out of the prison-doors.

"In our prison," says she, "we merely heard a vague report of a discovery, but this had been so often talked of, that no credit was given to it. At last, Monsieur le Blanc who had not made his appearance within our walls for some time, came here about the end of November. He told me that I should have saved him a great deal of trouble if I had, on my former examination, satisfied him concerning what I knew of the Dutchess du Maine's affair, with which I was perfectly acquainted; that she herself had set it forth in an exact declaration, and that my secrecy was now quite unseasonable. I answered that it did not appear to me that I was thought to know so much; in effect they had only examined me once, and that very slightly. "Besides," added I, "if the Dutchess du Maine herself has spoken, what can I say to give you further insight? Who should know so well as

herself what concerns her?" "At least," replied he, "you cannot deny having given to her highness letters from Spain." I answered, "That the letters which I might have received, were for myself; that some were sent me from different countries, no wise relating to the Dutchess du Maine." "Monsieur le Blanc, replied, that I knew the whole affair, and that I must speak, or remain in the Bastile all my life." "Well, sir," said I to him, "that's a settlement to such a one as I, who have no fortune." "It is not," answered he, "a very agreeable situation." "Neither," said I, "would I chuse it; but contentedly will I stay in it, rather than purchase my releasement by any fiction. For my part, I declare to you, that if I knew nothing, I can tell you nothing; and that if I have been entrusted with any thing, still less would I tell it. I am easy when I understand that the Dutchess is released." "It must be owned," said he, "that the Dutchess has had strange confidants; and it would have been well for her, had she trusted no other than you—as to your own concerns"—Those, sir, are not worth disturbing myself about." "Whence this confidence?" said he, "has your nativity been cast?" "The nativity of one born in such a bad fortune as mine, is cast of itself," answered I. Monsieur le Blanc went away but indifferently satisfied with my answers.

To relieve my solitude, I wrote the following portrait of myself, at the desire of a friend:

"Launay is of middling stature, lean, thin and disagreeable. Her temper and mind are, like her person, nothing amiss, yet nothing disagreeable. Those who are without birth or fortune, being supposed to want education, what little worth they have is the more esteemed; yet she has had an excellent one,

and 'tis from it she may derive all the good that may belong to her, as principles of virtue, noble sentiments, rules of conduct, and which now by habit are become as it were natural. It has ever been her folly to be willing to be rational; she has never been able to get the better of a vivacity of temper, or even to bring it to an appearance of equality; which has often rendered her offensive to her superiors, disagreeable in society, and quite insupportable to those under her. Happily fortune has not put it in her power to bring many into this misery. With all these defects, she has acquired a kind of reputation, for which she is purely indebted to two fortuitous occasions; one displaying something of wit in her, and the other shewing that she was not without discretion and firmness.

"She has given up her life to serious occupations, rather for strengthening her reason, than embellishing her wit, of which she makes little account. No opinion appears so clear to her as to fix her, but she is as ready to reject as to espouse it; hence it is, that if she disputes, it is generally out of pettishness. She has read a great deal, yet knows no more than is requisite to understand what is said on any subject whatever, and to avoid talking impertinately. Her predominant passion is a love of liberty; a very unfortunate passion in her, who has passed the greatest part of her time in servitude. She has ever had great sensibility in friendship, yet engaged more by the merits and virtues of her friends, than by their sentiments for her."

In 1720, after the Duke and Dutchess du Maine were permitted to return to Seaux, Mademoiselle de Launay was released from prison, when she found, that her small share in an affair which had been so much talked of in France, had imparted a kind of lustre to her. The steady

consistency of her conduct had acquired her great applause. The warmth of her former friends, pleased with this kind of success, revived. Her imprisonment had restored her to the Dutchess de la Ferte's favour, and she proposed that Mademoiselle de Launay should marry Monsieur Dacier*, but the Dutchess du Maine would not consent, and at the first mention of the overture, she declared that she would permit of no settlement which would deprive her of Mademoiselle de Launay, at the same time she commissioned one of her friends to look out amongst the Helvetic corps, commanded by the Duke du Maine, for one who would marry a woman without birth, youth, beauty, or fortune, a discovery which the thirteen cantons put together, could scarce afford. At length she found an officer who had a small house, with abundance of cows and sheep about it; a man of birth, and widower, with two daughters, who had met with but little preferment after a long service, and an irreproachable discharge of his duty. The Dutchess du Maine approved of this offer. The overture was well received by Monsieur de Stahl, who however asked some days to return a positive answer. He lived on the most affectionate terms with his daughters; and his first preliminary was their free consent to come under the care

of a step-mother; an appellation always odious. However after much reluctance they yielded to their father's inclinations; who in this offer saw before him a sure and easy fortune. He was only a lieutenant in the Swiss guards. The captain of his company was, for some time, in consequence of an apoplexy, rendered incapable of doing duty. Monsieur de Stahl's demand was to fill the captain's post, when it should fall vacant, and that in the meantime he should have the title of commandant of the company. The Dutchess du Maine consented to all these conditions. "The pension," says Mademoiselle de Launay, "which the Duke du Maine had granted me on my releasement, was secured to me, but the melancholy disposition I brought with me to my new mansion, contributed not a little to put me out of humour with the place, Monsieur de Stahl's daughters received me with coolness. He was vexed at my disagreeable reception, and I was vexed to find myself married; a confusion spread through the whole house, of which all the company seemed to partake." Her amiable qualities, however, soon gained her the affection of her husband's daughters, who continued to reside with her; and at her death she divided her property between them and her favourite convent of St. Lewis. She died at Gennevilliers on the 15th of June, 1750.

* A celebrated classical scholar.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

MARRIAGE CONTRACTS ENTERED INTO BEFORE MAGISTRATES.

DURING the time of Cromwell's administration, marriages were solemnized before the civil magistrate, and in this way sixty-six couples were joined together at Knaresbo-

rough, in Yorkshire, during the short space of four years. The bans were published on three separate days before the marriage, sometimes at the market-cross, and sometimes in the church. The following is a copy of one of the certificates:—

March, 30th, 1651, Marmaduke man, and Prudence Lowcock, with of the parish of Knaresborough, were this day married together at tipon, having first been published three several market days, in the market-place of Knaresborough, according to the act of parliament, and no exceptions made.—In the presence of Thomas Davies, and Anthony Simpson.”—*History of Knaresborough, by E. Hargrove, page 11.*

GENEROUS-HEARTED IRISHMAN.

I was once strolling of a forenoon in a large field near Dublin, looking at the volunteers of the city, who were on that day, going through their military evolutions, but, taking at the time, the refreshments of rummage, neat's tongue, &c. and a drink of their cantins. A man came up to me in the field, with a long slice of bread and meat in one hand, and a pen-knife in the other; not asking me to have any thing to eat myself, he invited me to partake with him, and was about to divide his morsel with me. I had previously eaten what I had brought out with me in my pocket, and answered, I thanked him, but (with all the stiffness of any formal Englishman), I had already dined. “Oh,” replied the open-hearted Irishman, casting his eyes over the hundreds and thousands in the adjoining vale, and on the opposite hill, “I wish I had the means of making all these people dine also.”—*Walker's Fragments.*

SINGULAR METHOD OF CATCHING OYSTERS IN MINORCA.

A man, commending himself first, perhaps, to the protection of Saint Antonio, or Nicholas, plunges from a boat to the depth of forty or fifty, or sometimes of nearly a hundred feet, with a hatchet slung to his right wrist; with this he severs the oysters from the rocks, and sticks them between his left arm

and his body, till he has thus collected a sufficient pile against his breast, or, till after many minutes, when the English waiting above begin to fear that he will rise no more, and when he begins to feel himself getting out of breath, he springs up at once, to the astonishment and relief of the spectators. His oysters are taken from his arm, he is helped into the boat, a dram is given him, and another takes his turn at the same painful and perilous exercise. *Walker's Fragments.*

FAMILY PRIDE.

Family pride has within the last half century been so completely vanquished by the pride of wealth, that it is now only in some places to be found in its genuine state. An anecdote, which displayed it in colours sufficiently ludicrous was lately related to me by a lady, who frequently visited the Island of Arran, on the western coast of Scotland, of which the Duke of Hamilton is chief proprietor, and most of the inhabitants are of his name. Among these an old couple, whose miserable hut bespoke the extreme of poverty and wretchedness, attracted the attention of my friend, and shared her bounty. On returning to the island, she found that the only daughter of these poor half-starved creatures had, during her absence, the good fortune to be very well married; and the first time she met the mother, she congratulated her on the circumstance. Janet, to her surprise, appeared extremely mortified. “Is your son-in-law not then so rich as has been reported?” asked the lady. “O-yes, madam, he is very rich if that were all!” “Has he not then a good character?” “Oh, the best of characters! there is not a better young man in all Scotland—but for all that—” “He does not make a good husband, I suppose.” “A good husband! why, madam, he

doats upon my daughter! She may do any thing she likes—but still it's a marriage I never can be pleased with; for, after all, he is come of nobody! Whoever heard of a Duke Mackalloss!"—*E. Hamilton's Letters to the Daughter of a Nobleman.*

PERSISTING IN ERROR USED AS A SUBTERFUGE TO COVER IGNORANCE.

About a century ago, when asparagus was first introduced into Ireland at tables, a bishop on meeting with it, by mistake used the white part of the stalk instead of

the green top. The mistake was always afterwards persisted in, and the bishop declared, he ate that part from choice, in preference to the part usually eaten. How often do we perceive in matters of more moment, that an error first adopted through ignorance, is continued through obstinacy, and a reluctance to acknowledge having been in mistake. On many occasions, we see a disposition similar to that evinced by the bishop in eating the white stalk of the asparagus. K.

POETRY.

1802.

GLENDALLOCH*.

BY DR. DRENNAN.

TH' enchantment of the place has bound
All nature in a sleep profound,

* GLENDALLOCH, or Glyn of the Double Lake, is situated in Wicklow, a county which pre-ents an abridgement of all that is pleasing in nature. This particular Glyn is surrounded on all sides, except to the east, by stupendous mountains, whose vast perpendicular height throws a gloom on the vale below, well suited to inspire religious dread and horror. It has, therefore, been from the most distant times, haunted with those spectres of illusive fancy, which delight to hover in the gloom of ignorance and superstition. It is said to have been an asylum of the Druids, who fled from Roman tyranny. It was afterwards the refuge of the Monks, who established there a different religious rule, in which mind and body were bound in the same bondage of five years silence, severe fasts, obedience unto death, and this Lake became their dead sea. Here, however, was the school of the West, an ark that preserved the remains of literature from the deluge of barbarism which overspread the rest of Europe. Here, the ancient Britons took refuge from the Saxons, and the native Irish from the incursions of the Danes. On the round

And silence of the evening hour,
Hangs o'er Glendalloch's hallow'd tower;
A mighty grave-stone set by time,
That, midst these ruins, stands sublime,
To point the else forgotten heap,
Where princes, and where prelates sleep:
Where Tuathal rests th' unnoted head,
And Keivin finds a softer bed,
Sods of the verdant soil that springs,
Within the sepulchre of kings.

HERE, in the circling mountain's shade,
In this vast vault by nature made,
Whose tow'ring roof excludes the skies,
With savage Kyles stupendous size,
While Lugduff heaves his moory height
And giant Broccagh bars the light:
HERE, when the British spirit broke
Had fled from Nero's iron yoke,
And sought this dreary, dark abode,
To save their altars, and their God—
From cavern black with mystic gloom,
(Cradle of science, and its tomb)
Where magic had its early birth,
Which drew the sun and moon to earth—

tower of Glendalloch, was often blown the horn of war. Amidst a silent and melancholy waste, it still raises its head above the surrounding fragments, as if moralizing on the ruins of our country, and the wreck of its legislative independence. We think of Marius, when he said to the licitor, "Go, and tell that you have seen Marius sitting on the ruins of Carthage!"

From hollow'd rock and devious cell
Where mystery was fond to dwell,
And in the dark, and deep profound,
To keep th' eternal secret bound,
(Recorded by no written art,
The deep memorial of the heart)
In flowing robes of spotless white,
Th' arch-Druid issued forth to light,
Brow-bound with leaf of holy oak,
That never felt the woodman's stroke:
Like to the new discover'd moon,
Behind his head, the crescent shone;
While flaming from his snowy vest,
The plate of judgment clasp'd his breast.
Around him, press'd th' illumin'd throng,
Above him, rose the light of song;
And from the rocks and woods around,
Return'd the fleet-wing'd sons of sound.

"MAKER OF TIME! we mortals wait,
"To hail thee at thy eastern gate;
"Where these huge mountains thrown a-
side,
"Expand for thee a portal wide,
"Descend, upon this altar, plac'd,
"Amidst Glendaloch's awful waste,
"So shall the pæan of thy praise
"Arise to meet thy rising rays,
"From Elephant's sculptur'd cave,
"To Eirin of the western wave,
"And the rejoicing earth prolong
"The orbit of successive song:
"For we, by thy reflection, shine,
"Who knows our God, becomes divine.

"But ah, what dim, and dismal shade,
"Casts this strange horror o'er the glade?
"Causes e'en hearts of brutes to quake,
"And shudders o'er the stagnat lake?
"What demon, enemy of good,
"Rolls back on earth this night of blood?
"What dragon of enormous size,
"Devours thee in thy native skies?
"O save thy children from his breath,
"From chaos, and eternal death."

The Druid mark'd the destin'd hour;
He mounted slow yon sacred tow'r:
Then stood upon its cap sublime
A hoary chronicler of time.
His head amidst the deathful gloom,
Seem'd Hope new risen from the tomb;
And as he rais'd to heaven his hand,
That minister of high command,
The terror of the crowd repress'd,
And smooth'd their troubled wave to rest.
He spoke—and round the pillar'd stone
Deep silence drank the silver tone.

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXII.

"He, who from elemental strife
"Spoke all these worlds to light and life,
"Who guides them thro' th' abyss above,
"In circles of celestial love,
"Has this vast panorama design'd
"A mirror of th' eternal mind.
"To view of superficial eyes,
"In broken parts, this mirror lies,
"And knowledge to these points apply'd,
"Are lucid specks of human pride.
"From beams of truth, distorted, cross'd,
"The image of our God is lost.
"Those, only those, become divine,
"The fractur'd parts who can combine:
"Nature to them, and them alone,
"Reflects from ev'ry part but ONE.
"Their eagle eye around them cast,
"Descries the future from the past.
"Justice will not annihilate
"What goodness did at first create.
"The mirror sully'd with the breath,
"Suffers slight change—it is not Death,
"That shadows yon bright orb of day;
"See! while I speak, the orient ray
"Breaks, sudden, thro' the darksome scene,
"And heav'n regains its blue serene.
"And soon the mild propitious pow'r,
"That consecrates the evening hour,
"Shall bend again her silver bow,
"Again her softer day shall throw,
"Smooth the dark brow of savage Kyle,
"And grim Glendaloch teach to smile.
"Now—Druids—hail the joyous light—
"Fear God—be bold—and do the right."

He ceas'd—their chorus sweet and strong,
Roll'd its full stream of sainted song.

"O Fountain of our sacred fire,
"To whom our kindred souls aspire,
"(Struck from the vast chaotic dark,
"As from these flints we strike the spark,)
"Thou Lord of life, and light, and joy,
"Great to preserve, but not destroy,
"On us thy favour'd offspring shine,
"Who know their God, must grow divine;
"And when thy radiant course is done,
"Thou shadow of another sun,
"Shall fade into his brighter sky,
"And time become eternity."

But past, long past the DRUID reign;
The CROSS o'ertopt the Pagan fane;—
To this remote asylum flew
A Priesthood of another hue,
More like the raven than the dove,
Tho' murmuring much of faith and love.

A lazy sullen virtue slept
O'er the dull lake—around it crept,

8 8

The self-tormenting anchorite,
And abunn'd th' approach of cheerful light;
Yet darkly long'd to hoard a name,
And, in the cavern, grop'd for fame.

Where nature reign'd in solemn state,
There Superstition chose her seat—
Her vot'ries knew with subtle art,
Thro' wond'ring eyes to chain the heart,
By terrors of the scene to draw,
And tame the savage to their law;
Then seat themselves on nature's throne,
And make her mighty spell their own.
The charming sorcery of the place,
Gave miracle a local grace,
And from the mountain top sublime,
The genius of our changeful clime,
A sort of pleasing panic threw,
Which felt each passing phantom true.

Ev'n at a more enlighten'd hour,
We feel this visionary pow'r,
And when, the meapest of his trade,
The ragged minstrel of the glade,
With air uncouth, and visage pale,
Pours forth the legendary tale,
The Genius from his rock-built pile,
Awful looks down, and checks our smile.
We listen—then a pleasing thrill
Creeps thro' our frame and charms our
will;
'Till fill'd with forms, phantastic, wild,
We feign, and then become the child.

We see the hooded fathers take,
Their silent circuit round the lake,
Silent, except a wailful song,
Extorted by the leathern thong.
Cronan, Cornloch, Lochann, Dogain,
Superiors of th' obedient train,
Envelop'd in their cowls, they move,
And shun the God of light and love.
Who leads the black procession on?
St. Keivin's living skeleton;
That travels thro' this vale of tears
Beneath the yoke of six-score years.
Sustains his steps a crozier wand,
Extended stiff one wither'd hand,
'To which the blackbird flew distress'd,
And found a kind protecting nest:
There dropt her eggs, while outstretch'd
stood
The hand—'till she had hatch'd her brood.

Hark, what a peal—sonorous, clear,
Strikes, from yon tow'r the tingling ear!
(No more of fire the worshipp'd tower,
'The holy water quench'd its power)
And now from every floor, a bell
Tolls Father Martin's funeral knell:

Who slipt his foot on holy ground,
And plung'd into the lake profound;
Or by a load of life oppress'd,
Sought refuge in its peaceful breast.

What, did not peace delighted dwell,
A hermit of the mountain cell?

No—'twas a cage of iron rule,
Of pride and selfishness the school,
Of dark desires, and doubts profane,
And harsh repentings, late but vain.
To fast—to watch—to scourge—to praise—
The golden legend of their days:
To idolize a stick or bone
And turn the bread of life to stone;
Till marr'd and mock'd by miracles,
Great Nature from her laws rebels;
And man becomes, by monkish art,
A prodigy without a heart.
No friend sincere, no smiling wife,
The blessing and the balm of life;
And knowledge, by a forg'd decree,
Still stands an interdicted tree.

Majestic tree! that proudly waves,
Thy branching words thy letter leaves;
Whether with strength that time commands,
An oak of ages—Homer—stands;
Or Milton—high topt mountain pine,
Aspiring to the light divine;
Or laurel of perennial green—
The Shakespeare of the living scene;
Whate'er thy form, in prose sublime,
Or train'd by art, and prun'd by rhyme,
All hail—thou priest-forbidden tree!
For God had bless'd and made thee free.
God did the foodful blessing give,
That man might eat of it, and live;
But they who have usurp'd his throne,
'To keep his paradise their own;
Have spread around a demon's breath,
And nam'd thee Upas tree of death.
Thy root is truth, thy stem is power,
And virtue thy consummate flower;
Receive the circling nations' vows,
And the world's garland deck thy boughs.

From the bleak Scandinavian shore,
The DANE his raven standard bore;
It rose, amidst the whitening foam,
Whene'er the robber hated home;
And as he plough'd the wat'ry way,
The raven seem'd to scent its prey,
Stretching the gloomy ominous wing,
For all the carnage war would bring.
'Twas HERE the christian savage stood,
To seal his faith in flames and blood.
The sword of midnight murder fell,
On the calm sleepers of the cell.

Flash'd thro' the trees, with horrid glare,
The flames—and poison'd all the air;
Her song, the lark began to raise,
As she had seen the solar blaze,
But smote with terrifying sound,
Forsook the death polluted ground,
And never since, this limit near,
Was heard to hymn her vigil clear.

This periodic ravage fell
How oft, our bloody annals tell,
But ah! how much of woe untold,
How many groans of young and old,
Has history, in this early age,
Sunk, in the margin of her page;
Which, at the best, but stamps a name
On vice, and misery, and shame.

Thus flow'd in flames, and blood, and
tears,
A lava of two hundred years;
And tho', some seeds of science seen,
Shot forth, in heart enliv'ning green,
To cloath the gaps of civil strife
And smooth a savage-temper'd life;
Yet soon new torrents, black'ning, came,
Wrapt the young growth in rolling flame,
And as it blasted, left behind
Dark desolation of the mind.

But now no more the rugged North,
Pours half its population forth,
No more that iron-girded coast,
The sheath of many a sworded host,
That rush'd abroad for bloody spoil,
Still won on hapless Erin's soil;
Where discord wav'd her flaming brand
Sure guide to this devoted land,
A land by fav'ring nature nurt'd,
By human fraud, and folly, curs'd,
Which never foreign friend shall know,
While to herself—the direst foe.
Is that a friend, who sword in hand,
Leaps pon'drous on the yielding strand,
Full-plum'd with Anglo-Norman pride,
The base adulteress by his side,
Pointing to Leinster's fertile plain,
Where (wretch!) he thinks once more to
reign,

Yes—thou shalt reign, and live to know
Thy own, amidst thy country's woe:
That country's curse upon thy head,
Torments thee, living; haunts thee, dead;
And howling through the vaults of time,
E'en now proclaims, and damns thy crime:
Six centuries past, her curse still lives,
Nor yet forgets, nor yet forgives—
DERMOT, who bade the Norman's come,
To sack and spoil his native home.
So! by this traitor's bloody hand,

Dissention rooted in the land:
Mix'd with the seed of springing years,
Their hopeful blossoms steep'd in tears,
And late posterity can tell,
The fruitage rotted, as it fell.

Then destiny was heard to wail
While on black stone of Inisfail,
She mark'd this nation's dreadful doom,
And character'd the woes to come.
Battle, and plague, and famine plac'd
The epochs of th' historic waste,
And, crowning all the ills of life,
Self-conquer'd by domestic strife.

Was this the scheme of mercy plan'd
In Adrien's heart, through Henry's hand,
To draw the savage from his den,
And train the Irishry to men;
To fertilize the human clay,
And turn the stubborn soil to day?
No—'twas two Englishmen who play'd
The myst'ry of their sep'rate trade.
Conquest was then, and ever since,
The real design of priest, and prince,
And while his flag the king unfurl'd,
The Father of the christian world,
Bless'd it, and hail'd the hallow'd deed,
For none but *savages* would bleed.
Yet when these savages began,
To turn upon the hunter, man,
Rush'd from their forests to assail
The encroaching circuit of the pale;
The cause of quarrel still was good,
The *enemy* must be subdued.
Subdued, the nation then was gor'd
By law more penal than the sword,
Till vengeance, with a tiger start,
Sprung from the covert of the heart;
Resistance took a blacker name,
The scaffold's penalty and shame,
There was the wretched *rebel* led,
Uplifted, there, the *traitor's* head.

Still there was hope th' avenging hand,
Oft eav'n, would spare a hapless land,
That days of ruin, havock, spoil,
Would cease to desolate its soil;
Justice, tho' late, begin her course,
Subdued the lion law of force:
There was a hope that civil hate
No more a policy of state;
Religion, not the slave of pow'r,
Her only office to adore;
And Education, here, might stand,
The harp of Orpheus in her hand,
Of pow'r t' infuse the social charm,
With love of peace and order, warm;
The fiercer passions all repress'd,
And tam'd the tigers of the breast,

By love of country and of kind,
And magic of a master mind.

As from yon dull and stagnant lake,
The streams begin to live, and take
Their course thro' Clara's wooded vale,
Kiss'd by the health infusing gale,
Heedless of wealth their banks may hold,
They wind, neglectful of the gold ;
Yet seem to hope a Shakespeare's name,
To give our *Aoon* deathless fame—
So, from the savage barren heart,
The streams of science and of art,
May spread their soft refreshing green,
And vivify the *moral* scene.

O vanish'd hope !—O transient boast !
O COUNTRY gain'd but to be lost !
Gain'd by a nation, rais'd, inspir'd ;
By eloquence and virtue fir'd ;
By trans-Atlantic glory stung ;
By GRATTAN's energetic tongue ;
By Parliament that felt its trust ;
By Britain *terrify'd*, and just.
Lost...by thy chosen children sold,
And conquer'd not by steel, but gold.
Sold in a bargain base, absurd,
Dupe to a courtier's pledge—his word—
His purpose serv'd, then, nothing loth,
The word is broken by the oath—

The courtier skulks behind the throne,
And, sold our honour, saves his own ;
Lost—by a low and servile *great*,
Who smile upon their country's fate,
Crouching to gain the public choice,
And sell it by their venal voice.
Lost—to the world, and future fame—
Remember'd only in a name,
Once, in the courts of Europe known,
To claim a self-dependent throne.
Thy ancient records torn, and tost,
Upon the waves that beat thy coast,
The mock'ry of a mongrel race,
Sordid, illiterate, and base.
To science lost—and letter'd truth,
The genius of thy native youth,
To Cam and Isis glad to roam,
Nor keep a heart nor hope for home.
Thy spark of independence dead,
And Life of Life, thy Freedom fled !

Where shall her sad remains be laid ?
Where invoke her solemn shade ?

HERE—be the Mausoleum plac'd—
In this vast vault, this awful waste.
Yon mould'ring pillar, midst the gloom,
Finger of Time ! shall point her tomb,
While silence of the evening hour,
Hangs o'er GLENDALLOCH's hallow'd
tow'r.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

(This article is furnished by a Gentleman in London.)

A RECENT importation of journals from France, enables us to present our readers with a brief account of what has occurred most worthy notice in the arts, sciences, and literature, on the continent up to October last. As an object of primary attention, we shall begin with Mr. Delambre's analysis of the labours of the mathematical and physical class of the French institute, during the year 1809. The account of the proceedings of the class in 1808, shewed with what success the attention of some able geometers had been turned to one of the most important problems, the stability of the planetary system : Mr. Lagrange has now pursued his investigation still farther, extending it to a sys-

tem of bodies acting on each other in any manner whatever. He has likewise simplified his formulæ considerably.

Mr. Poisson, as a continuation of his work on the variations of the elements of the planets, read a paper on the rotation of the earth : the results of his investigation are, that the rotation will always coincide very nearly with the shortest principal axes, and that the poles will always answer to the same points of the surface. Different hypotheses have been framed, in which oscillations of this axis are introduced : but Mr. P. observes, these are not confirmed by astronomical observations. If the oscillation were very small, however, it would pro-

bably be unnoticed. Suppose it were of 1" only; and the pole, instead of going through the whole of its circle in one year, went through no more than 350°: then in nine years it would be 0, and in 18 years it would be 1" in the opposite direction, so as to make a difference of two seconds in the latitude in that time. This would account nearly for Bradley's finding the latitude of Greenwich at one time $51^{\circ} 28' 41.5''$, and at another only $51^{\circ} 28' 38''$. Thus too the latitude of the observatory at Paris was found at one time to be $48^{\circ} 50' 10''$, and at other times $48^{\circ} 50' 14''$, by Lacaille, Cagnoli, Meckain, and Delambre. These differences might be ascribed to an oscillation of at least 2", and a period about 15 years: but perhaps they may be accounted for more justly by errors in observations, and inaccuracies in the instruments not sufficiently known. It is a point however, that merits verification with an instrument, in which no error of collimation is to be apprehended: and it would be sufficient to observe with this the meridian altitudes of the polestar above and below the pole, for a few years in December and January; for we know from the analysis of Mr. P. that the period is not an entire year, so that the latitude must experience a gradual variation, if observed constantly at the same period.

The following is the conclusion of Mr. P.'s paper: "The perturbations of the rotary motion of solid bodies of any given figure, owing to any given attractive forces, depend on the same equations as the perturbations of the motion of a point attracted toward a fixed centre; thus the precession of the equinoxes, and the nutation of the earth's axis, will be expressed by the same formulae, as give the variations of the elliptical elements of the planets."

Messrs. Laplace and Bouvard each read a paper on the rotary motion of the moon, by means of which it constantly presents the same face to the earth, with little variation. Instead of the approximation of Mayer, Mr. Bouvard gives a method of calculation, which is equally precise and direct; and in its results agrees exactly with those of Mayer: a fresh proof of the ability of that great astronomer, whose instruments were but indifferent, while Mr. B. had an excellent equatorial by Bellet.

Mr. Burckhardt read a paper on perturbations of the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth orders. He first gives a theorem, for reducing to the theory of the perturbing planet the differentials calculated by the planet perturbed, because these changes are continually occurring in calculations of this sort. He has found that the coefficients of certain terms of the third order, have the third differences equal to the cube of 3; those of the fourth order, the fourth differences equal to the fourth power of 4; those of the fifth, to the fifth power of 5; and that generally we arrive at constant differences.

To this paper was added another on the calculations necessary for determining the coefficients of the different inequalities of the moon. As a trial of his method, Mr. B. proposed to determine, from the observations of Dr. Maskelyne, an inequality, which should have for its argument the mean anomaly of the moon increased by the argument that regulates the inequality, the period of which is 180 years. Nine hundred observations gave him 4.7" for the coefficient. This paper was added to the former, and closes the memoirs of the institute for 1808.

In another paper the same astronomer calculated the perturbations of Halley's comet, which reappeared in 1759, and is expected about 1835.

He has found, that the attraction of the earth will have made an alteration of sixteen days in the period of its revolution.

Mr. Burckhardt, who has formed the plan of a grand geodetic operation for connecting observations, differing greatly in longitude, was sensible how important an exact determination of the azimuths would be to its success; and accordingly has examined the advantages and disadvantages peculiar to each of the known methods.

Mr. B. also examined the dip with two different needles, the first of which gave $68^{\circ} 47.1'$, the other $68^{\circ} 47.4'$, on the 10th and 20th of August 1809. Mr. Gay-Lussac made similar observations about the same time with another compass, and, as his differed some minutes from Mr. B.'s, these two gentlemen have agreed to repeat their observations.

Mr. Biot read a note on the observations of the pendulum made at the two extremities of the meridian line, that is, at Formentera and Dunkirk, and the ellipticity of the earth thence resulting. These observations agree astonishingly with those made at Bourdeaux, Figeac, and Paris; and their result differs very little from that, which Mr. Delambre deduced from a comparison of his arc with that of Peru, or $30''$.

Mr. Ramond has examined with great care the application of his coefficient for barometrical measurements to small heights, which were ascertained trigonometrically by M. de Courbon, and finds his correction of that of Laplace equally valid as in higher stations. On the other hand, Mr. Prony, whose barometrical calculation of the height of Mount Cenis differed from that of Mr. Ramond, has found it confirmed by the very careful and repeated measurements of Mr. Daune, during the construction of the road

over it. Mr. P. is employed in concert with Mr. Mathieu, of the imperial observatory, in endeavouring to render the barometer so far applicable to the measurement of small heights, that it may be employed in the preliminary operations of planning roads and canals. A small observatory has been built for him over the pediment of the house of the legislature.

In the physical class, Messrs Gay-Lussac and Thenard have pursued the discovery of Mr. Davy, but they are still of opinion, that the supposed new metals are compounds of the alkalis with hydrogen.

Mr. Gay-Lussac too professes to have made experiments, by which he proves, that gasses, in those proportions in which they are capable of combining with each other, always produce compounds, the elements of which are in very simple ratios. Thus one part of oxygen gas saturates exactly two of hydrogen; fluoric or muriatic gas saturates an equal bulk of ammoniacal gas, and forms a neutral salt; and so of many others. All this he appears to give as his own discovery, without saying a word of the hypothesis of Mr. Dalton, of Manchester.

Mr. Guyton de Morveau, in a series of experiments on the diamond and substances that contain carbon, sought to ascertain the action of the diamond on water at a very high temperature. He found, that the water was decomposed, and carbonic acid produced.

Mr. Sage communicated his inquiries concerning the revival of silver from its nitrat by mercury; on an acetat of ammonia obtained from wood by distillation; an analysis of the calcareous stone, called typographic; on the magnesia contained in shells, madrepores, limestone, and arra-

gonite; on an arenaceous iron ore; on an unknown petrification; and an analysis of a cupreous and ferruginous petrified wood.

Mr. Vauquelir has analysed tobacco, with a view to discover the principles that characterise this plant, and have occasioned it to be selected for the purposes for which it is employed; and also to ascertain the changes occasioned by its preparation as an article of trade. He has found, that it contains animal matter of the nature of albumen, malat of lime with excess of acid, acetic acid, nitrat and muriat of potash, a red matter, the nature of which is unknown, muriat of ammonia, and an acrid and volatile principle, which appears to differ from all others known in the vegetable kingdom. This principle, which imparts to tobacco its well known qualities, may be extracted from the plant by distillation, and employed separately. In prepared tobacco were found, besides the above, carbonat of ammonia and muriat of lime.

As Mr. V. imagined, that the juice of belladonna, from its having similar effects on the animal economy, contained the acrid principle he had discovered in tobacco, he analysed it; but he found only animal matter, salts with base of potash, and a bitter substance, to which the deadly-night-shade owes its narcotic properties.

Mr. Chevreul has made very extensive experiments on vegetable matters. The object of some of these was the bitter principle produced by the action of nitric acid, on organized substances, containing nitrogen, and which had already occupied the attention of Hausmana, Wekher, Proust, Fourcroy, and Vauquelin. Mr. C. thinks, that this bitter matter is a compound of nitric acid and an oily or resinous vegetable substance. The detonating property

of this substance, he ascribes to the decomposition of nitric acid, and the formation of ammoniacal gas, prussic acid, oily hydrogen gas, &c.; which agrees in part with the observations of Fourcroy and Vauquelin. With this bitter matter are produced a resinous substance, and a volatile acid, on which Mr. C. has made many experiments, and which he considers as differing from the bitter matter only by a small portion of nitric acid.

Another paper, by the same gentleman, is on the substances formed by the action of the nitric acid on carbonaceous or resinous substances, and which have the property of precipitating gelatin. Mr. C. thinks, that the discoverer of these substances, Mr. Hatchett, is mistaken in considering them as one, and the same with tannin. He conceives, on the contrary, that they differ not only from tannin, but from each other, according to the kind of acid, the quantity that enters into their composition, and the substance from which they are prepared.

Mr. C. has likewise examined the different compounds formed by the action of sulphuric acid on camphor.

Not a year has passed of late without some successful application of chemistry to the arts, so as to afford fresh proofs of the advantages that our manufactures may derive from the sciences. Thus Mr. Chaptal has given us some interesting observations on the distillation of spirits. One of the most important distilleries in the South of France is in fact a Woulfe's apparatus on a large scale.

The same chemist has analysed seven specimens of colours found at Pompeii. Three of these are earths naturally coloured, one greenish, one yellow, and the third a brown red. The fourth is a very light and very white pumice-stone. The fifth, which is of a fine rose-colour, has all the

characters of a lake, and has considerable resemblance to the madder lake, which he has described in his treatise on dyeing cotton. The other two were blues, one pale, but the other deep and rich. They were both produced by a combination of oxide of copper, with lime and alumina, resulting from a commencement of vitrification. As this blue is much superior to verditer, and might be fabricated at a much less expense than

ultramarine, or the blue from cobalt, it would be of great advantage to discover the processes employed by the ancients for producing it.

Mr. Sage has been endeavouring to ascertain the processes best adapted to the extraction of quick-lime, for obtaining solid mortars; the nature of different kinds of stucco; the means of giving the polish of marble to artificial stones; and a process for making soap of white wax.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Observations upon Luminous Animals.

By J. Macartney, esq.

THE property which certain animals possess of emitting light is so curious and interesting that it has attracted the attention of naturalists in all ages. It was particularly noticed by Aristotle and Pliny amongst the ancients; and the publications of the different learned societies in Europe contain numerous memoirs upon the subject. Notwithstanding the degree of regard bestowed upon the history of luminous animals, it is still very imperfect; the power of producing light appears to have been attributed to the several creatures which do not possess it; some species which enjoy it in an eminent degree have been imperfectly described or entirely unobserved; the organs which afford the light in certain animals have not been examined by dissection; and, lastly, the explanations that have been given of the phenomena of animal light are unsatisfactory, and in some instances palpably erroneous.

As this subject forms an interesting part of the history of organized beings, I had for some years availed myself of such opportunities as

occurred for its investigation. Having communicated the result of some of my researches to the Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, he immediately offered me his assistance with that liberality which so eminently distinguishes him as a real lover of science. I am indebted to him for an inspection of the valuable journal he kept during his voyage with Captain Cook; for permission to copy the original drawings in his possession of those luminous animals discovered in both the voyages of Cook; and for some notes upon the luminous appearance of the sea, that were presented to him by Captain Horsburg, whose accuracy of observation is already known to this learned society.

In the following paper I shall first examine the grounds on which the property of shewing light has been ascribed to certain animals that either do not possess it, or in which its existence is questionable. I shall next give an account of some luminous species, of which some have been inaccurately described, and others quite unknown. I shall endeavour to explain, from my own observations, and the information

communicated to me by others, many of the circumstances attending the luminous appearance of the sea. I shall then describe the organs employed for the production of light in certain species; and, lastly, I shall review the opinions which have been entertained respecting the nature and origin of animal light, and relate the experiments I have made for the purpose of elucidating this part of the subject.

The property of emitting light has been reported to belong to several fishes, more particularly the mackerel, the moon-fish, (*tetraodon niola*) the dorado, mullet, sprat; &c.

Mr. Bajon observed, during the migration of the dorados, &c. that their bodies was covered with luminous points. These however proved, upon examination, to be mere spherical particles that adhered to the surface of these fishes; and, he adds, appeared to be precisely the same sort of points that illuminated the whole of the sea at the time. They were therefore, in all probability, the minute kind of medusa which I shall have occasion to describe hereafter.

Godeheu de Riville states, in a paper sent to the academy of sciences at Paris, that on opening the scomber pelamis while alive, he found in different parts of its body and oil which gave out much light: but it should be observed, that Riville had a particular theory to support, for which this fact was very convenient, and that other parts of his memoir bear marks of inaccuracy. It may be added, that if the oil of fishes were usually luminous, which Riville supposed, it would be almost universally known, instead of resting on a solitary observation.

As far as I am able to determine from what I have seen, the faculty of exhibiting light during life does not belong to the class of fishes. It ap-

pears probable, that some fishes may have acquired the character of being luminous from evolving light soon after death.

Some species of *lepas*, *mxrex*, and *chams*, and some star-fish, have been said to possess the power of shining; and the assertion has been repeated by one writer after another, but without quoting any authority.

Brugueire upon one occasion saw, as he supposed, common earth-worms in a luminous state; all the hedges were filled with them; he remarked that the light resided principally in the posterior part of the body*.

Flaugergues pretended to have seen earth-worms luminous in three instances; it was at each time in October; the body shone at every part, but most brilliantly at the genital organ†.

Notwithstanding this concurrence of testimony, it is next to impossible that animals so frequently before our eyes as the common earth-worm should be endowed with so remarkable a property without every person having observed it. If they only enjoyed it during the season for copulation, still it could not have escaped notice, as these creatures are usually found joined together in the most frequented paths, and in garden-walks.

In different Systems of Natural History the property of shining is attributed to the cancer pulex. The authorities for this opinion are *Hablitzel*, and *Thules* and *Bernard*. The former observed, upon one occasion, a cable that was drawn up from the sea exhibit light, which upon closer inspection was perceived to be covered by these insects‡. *Thules* and *Bernard* reported that they met with

* Journal d'Histoire Naturelle, tome II.

† Journal de Physique, tome XVI.

‡ *Hablitzel* ap. *Pall. n. Nord. Beytr.* 4, p. 390.

a number of this species of cancer on the borders of a river entirely luminous†. I am nevertheless disposed to question the luminous property of the cancer pulex, I have often had the animal in my possession, and never perceived it emit any light.

The account by given Linneus of the scolopendra phosphorea is so improbable and inconsistent that one might be led to doubt this insect's existence, particularly as it does not appear to have been ever seen, except by Ekeberg, the Captain of an East Indianman, from whom Linneus learnt its history.

I now proceed to the description of those luminous animals that have been discovered by the Right Honourable Sir Joseph Banks, Captain Horsburg, and myself.

On the passage from Madeira to Rio de Janeiro, the sea was observed by Sir Joseph Banks to be unusually luminous, flashing in many parts like lightning. He directed some of the water to be hauled up, in which he discovered two kinds of animals that occasioned the phenomenon; the one, a crustaceous insect, which he called the cancer fulgens; the other, a large species of medusa, to which he gave the name of pellucens.

The cancer fulgens bears some resemblance to the common shrimp; it is however considerably less; the legs are furnished with numerous setæ. The light of this animal, which is very brilliant, appears to issue from every part of the body.

The medusa pellucens measures about six inches across the crown or umbella; this part is marked by a number of opaque lines, that pass off from the center to the circumference.

* Journal de Physique, tome XVI.

† Hablitzl ap. Pall. n. Nord. Beytr. 4. p. 396.

‡ Journal de Physique, tome XXVIII.

The edge of the umbella is divided into lobules, which succeed each other, one large and two small ones alternately. From within the margin of the umbella there are suspended a number of long cord-shaped tentacula. The central part of the animal is opaque, and furnished with four thick irregularly-shaped processes, which hang down in the midst of the tentacula.

This zoophyte is the most splendid of the luminous inhabitants of the ocean. The flashes of light emitted during its contractions are so vivid as to effect the sight of the spectator.

In the notes communicated to Sir Joseph Banks by Captain Horsburg he remarks that the luminous state of the sea between the Tropics is generally accompanied with the appearance of a great number of marine animals of various kinds upon the surface of the water; to many of which he does not, however, attribute the property of shining. At other times, when the water which gave out light was examined it appeared only to contain small particles of a dusky straw colour, which dissolved with the slightest touch of the finger. He likewise observes that in Bombay, during the hot weather of May and June, he has frequently seen the edges of the sea much illuminated by minute sparkling points.

At sun-rise on April 12, 1798, in the Arabian sea, he perceived several luminous spots in the water, which conceiving to be animals, he went in the boat and caught one. It proved to be an insect somewhat resembling in appearance the woodlouse, and was about one third of an inch in length. When viewed with the microscope it seemed to be formed by sections of a thin crustaceous substance. During the time that any fluid remained in the api-

mal it shone brilliantly, like the fire-fly.

In the month of June in the same year he picked up another luminous insect on a sandy beach, which was also covered with a thin shell, but it was a different shape, and a larger size than the animal taken in the Arabian sea.

By comparing the above description with an elegant pen and ink drawing which was made by Captain Horsburg, and accompanied his paper, I have no doubt that both these insects were monocoli; the first evidently belongs to the genus *limulus* of Muller; I shall therefore beg leave to distinguish it by the name of *limulus noctilucus*.

My pursuits and the state of my health having frequently led me to the coast, I have had many opportunities of making observations upon the animals which illuminate our own seas. Of these I have discovered three species: one of which is a *beroe* not hitherto described by authors; another agrees so nearly with the *medusa hemispherica* that I conceive it to be the same, or at least a variety of that species; the third is a minute species of *medusa*, which I believe to be the luminous animal so frequently seen by navigators, although it has never been distinctly examined or described.

I first met with these animals in the mouth of October 1804, at Herne Bay, a small watering place upon the northern coast of Kent. Having observed the sea to be extremely luminous for several nights, I had a considerable quantity of the water taken up. When perfectly at rest, no light was emitted; but on the slightest agitation of the vessel in which the water was contained, a brilliant scintillation was perceived, particularly towards the surface; and when the vessel was suddenly struck, a flash of light issued from the top of

the water, in consequence of so many points shining at the same moment. When any of these sparkling points were removed from the water, they no longer yielded any light. They were so transparent that in the air they appeared like globules of water. They were more minute than the head of the smallest pin. Upon the slightest touch they broke and vanished from the sight. Having strained a quantity of the luminous water, a great number of these transparent corpuscles were obtained upon the cloth, and the water which had been strained did not afterwards exhibit the least light. I then put some sea-water that had been rendered particularly clear, by repeated filtrations, into a large glass, and having floated in it a fine cloth, on which I had previously collected a number of luminous points, several of them were liberated, and became distinctly visible in their natural element, by placing the glass before a piece of dark coloured paper. They were observed to have a tendency to come to the surface of the water; and after the glass was set by for some time, they were found congregated together, and when thus collected in a body they had a dusky straw colour, although individually they were so transparent as to be perfectly invisible, except under particular circumstances. Their substance was indeed so extremely tender and delicate, that they did not become opaque in distilled vinegar or alcohol until immersed in these liquors for a considerable time.

On examining these minute globules with the microscope, I found that they were not quite perfect spheres, but had an irregular depression on one side, which was formed of an opaque substance, that projected a little way inwards, producing such an appearance as would arise from tying the neck of a round

bag, and turning it into the body.

The motions of these creatures in the water were slow and graceful, and not accompanied by any visible contraction of their bodies. After death they always subsided to the bottom of the vessel.

From the sparkling light afforded by this species, I shall distinguish it by the name of *medusa scintillans*.

The night following that on which I discovered the preceding animal, I caught the two other luminous species. One of these I shall call the *beroe fulgens*.

This most elegant creature is of a colour changing between purple, violet, and pale blue; the body is truncated before, and pointed behind; but the form is difficult to assign, as it is varied by partial contractions, at the animal's pleasure. I have represented the two extremes of form that I have seen this creature assume: the first is somewhat that of a cucumber, which, as being the one it takes when at rest, should perhaps be considered as its proper shape: the other resembles a pear, and is the figure it has in the most contracted state. The body is hollow, or forms internally an infundibular cavity, which has a wide opening before, and appears also to have a small aperture posteriorly, through which it discharges its excrement. The posterior two-thirds of the body are ornamented with eight longitudinal ciliated ribs, the processes of which are kept in such a rapid rotatory motion, while the animal is swimming, that they appear like the continual passage of a fluid along the ribs. The ciliated ribs have been described by Professor Mitchell, as arteries, in a luminous *beroe*, which I suspect was no other than the species I am now giving an account of.

When the *beroe fulgens* swam

gently near the surface of the water, its whole body became occasionally illuminated in a slight degree; during its contractions a stronger light issued from the ribs; and when a sudden shock was communicated to the water, in which several of these animals were placed, a vivid flash was thrown out. If the body were broken, the fragments continued luminous for some seconds, and being rubbed on the hand, left a light like that of phosphorus; this however, as well as every other mode of emitting light, ceased after the death of the animal.

The hemispherical species that I discovered, had a very faint purple colour. The largest that I found measured about three quarters of an inch in diameter. The margin of the umbella was undivided, and surrounded internally by a row of pale brown spots, and numerous small twisted tentacula; four opaque lines crossed in an arched manner from the circumference, towards the centre of the animal: an opaque irregular-shaped process hung down from the middle of the umbella; when this part was examined with a lens of high powers, I discovered that it was inclosed in a sheath in which it moved, and that the extremity of the process was divided into four tentacula, covered with little cups or suckers, like those on the tentacula of the cuttle-fish.

This species of *medusa* bears a striking resemblance to the figures of the *medusa hemispherica*, published by *Gonovius* and *Muller*; indeed it differs as little from these figures, as they do from each other. Its luminous property, however, was not observed by these naturalists, which is the more extraordinary; as *Muller* examined it at night, and says it is so transparent, that it can only be seen with the light of a lamp. If it should be still consi-

dered as a distinct species, or as a variety of the hemispherica, I would propose to call it the medusa lucida.

In this species, the central part and the spot round the margin, are commonly seen to shine on lifting the animal out of the water into the air, presenting the appearance of an illuminated wheel, and when it is exposed to the usual percussion of the water, the transparent parts of its body are alone luminous.

In the month of September, 1805, I again visited Herne Bay, and frequently had opportunities of witnessing the luminous appearance of the sea. I caught many of the hemispherical and minute species of medusa, but not one of the beroe fulgens. I observed that these luminous animals always retreated from the surface of the water, as soon as the moon rose. I found also, that exposure to the day-light took away their property of shining, which was revived by placing them for some time in a dark situation.

In that season I had two opportunities of seeing an extended illumination of the sea, produced by the above animals. The first night I saw this singular phenomenon was extremely dark; many of the medusa scintillans and medusa hemispherica had been observed at low-water, but on the return of the tide, they had suddenly disappeared. On looking towards the sea, I was astonished to perceive a flash of light of about six yards broad, extend from the shore, for apparently the distance of a mile and a half along the surface of the water. The second time that I saw this sort of light proceed from the sea, it did not take the same form, but was diffused over the surface of the waves next the shore, and was so strong, that I could for the moment distinctly see my servant, who stood at a little

distance from me: he also perceived it, and called out to me at the same instant. On both these occasions the flash was visible for about four or five seconds, and although I watched for it a considerable time, I did not see it repeated.

A diffused luminous appearance of the sea, in some respects different from what I have seen, has been described by several navigators.

Godeheu de Riville saw the sea assume the appearance of a plain of snow on the coast of Malabar.*

Captain Horsburgh, in the notes he gave to Sir Joseph Banks, says, there is a peculiar phenomenon sometimes seen within a few degrees distance of the coast of Malabar, during the rainy monsoon, which he had an opportunity of observing. At midnight the weather was cloudy, and the sea was particularly dark, when suddenly it changed to a white flaming colour all around. This bore no resemblance to the sparkling or glowing appearance he had observed on other occasions in seas near the equator, but was a regular white colour, like milk, and did not continue more than ten minutes. A similar phenomenon, he says, is frequently seen in the Banda sea, and is very alarming to those who have never perceived or heard of such an appearance before.

This singular phenomenon appears to be explained by some observations communicated to me by Mr. Langstaff, a surgeon in the city, who formerly made several voyages. In going from New Holland to China, about half an hour after sunset, every person on board was astonished by a milky appearance of the sea: the ship seemed to be surrounded by ice covered with snow. Some of the company supposed they were

* Mem. Etrang. de l'Acad. des Scs, Tom. 3.

in soundings, and that coral bottom gave this curious reflection; but on sounding with 70 fathoms of line, no bottom was met with. A bucket of water being hauled up, Mr. Langstaff examined it in the dark, and discovered a great number of globular bodies, each about the size of a pin's head, linked together. The chains thus formed did not exceed three inches in length, and emitted a pale phosphoric light. By introducing his hand into the water, Mr. Langstaff raised upon it several chains of the luminous globules, which were separated by opening the fingers, but readily re-united on being brought again into contact, like globules of quicksilver. The globules, he says, were so transparent, that they could not be perceived when the hand was taken into the light.

This extraordinary appearance of the sea was visible for two nights. As soon as the moon exerted her influence, the sea changed to its natural dark colour, and exhibited distinct glittering points, as at other times. The phenomenon, he says, had never been witnessed before by any of the company on board, although some of the crew had been two or three times round the globe.

I consider this account of Mr. Langstaff very interesting and important, as it proves that the diffused light of the sea is produced by an assemblage of minute medusæ on the surface of the water.

In June, 1806, I found the sea at Margate more richly stored with the small luminous medusæ, than I have ever seen it. A bucket of the water being set by for some time, the animals sought the surface, and kept up a continual sparkling, which must have been occasioned by the motions of individuals, as the water was perfectly at rest. A small quantity of the luminous water was put

into a glass jar, and on standing some time, the medusæ collected at the top of the jar, and formed a gelatinous mass, one inch and a half thick, and of a reddish or mud colour, leaving the water underneath perfectly clear.

In order to ascertain if these animals would materially alter their size, or assume the figure of any other known species of medusæ, I kept them alive for 25 days, by carefully changing the water in which they were placed; during which time, although they appeared as vigorous as when first taken, their form was not in the slightest degree altered, and their size but little increased. By this experiment I was confirmed in the opinion of their being a distinct species, as the young actiniae and medusæ exhibit the form of the parent in a much shorter period than the above.

In September, 1806, I took at Sandgate a number of the berœe fulgens, but no other species: they were of various dimensions, from the full size down to that of the medusa scintillans: they could however be clearly distinguished from the latter species, by their figure.

Since that time, I have frequently met with the medusa scintillans on different parts of the coast of Sussex, at Tenby, and at Milford haven. I have likewise seen this species in the bays of Dublin and Carlingford, in Ireland.

In the month of April, last year, I caught a number of the berœe fulgens in the sea at Hastings; they were of various sizes, from about the half of an inch in length to the bulk of the head of a large pin. I found many of them adhering together in the sea; some of the larger sort were covered with small ones, which fell off when the animals were handled, and by a person unaccustomed to observe these creatures, would

have been taken for a phosphoric substance. On putting a number of them into a glass, containing clear sea water, they still shewed a disposition to congregate upon the surface. I observed that when they adhered together, they shewed no contractile motion in any part of their body, which explains the cause of the pale or white colour of the diffused light of the ocean. The flashes of light which I saw come from the sea at Herne bay, were probably produced by a sudden and general effort of the medusæ to separate from each other, and descend in the water.

The medusa scintillans almost constantly exists in the different branches of Milford haven that are called pills. I have sometimes found these animals collected in such vast numbers in those situations, that they bore a considerable proportion to the volume of the water in which they were contained: thus, from a gallon of sea-water in a luminous state, I have strained above a pint of these medusæ. I have found the sea under such circumstances to yield me more support in swimming, and the water to taste more disagreeably than usual; probably the difference of density, that has been remarked at different times in the water of the sea, may be referred to this cause.

All my own observations lead me to conclude, that the medusa scintillans, is the most frequent source of the light of the sea around this country, and by comparing the accounts of others with each other, and with what I have myself seen, I am persuaded that it is so likewise in other parts of the world. Many observers appear to have mistaken this species for the nereis noctiluca, which was very natural, as they were prepossessed with the idea of the frequent existence of the one,

and had no knowledge of the other. Some navigators have actually described this species of medusa, without being aware of its nature. Mr. Bajon, during his voyage from France to Cayenne, collected many luminous points in the sea, which, he says, when examined by a lens, were found to be minute spheres. They disappeared in the air. Doctor Le Roy, in sailing from Naples to France, observed the sparkling appearance of the sea, which is usually produced by the medusa scintillans. By filtering the water, he separated luminous particles from it, which he preserved in spirits of wine: they were, he says, like the head of a pin, and did not at all resemble the nereis noctiluca, described by Vianelli; their colour approached a yellow-brown, and their substance was extremely tender, and fragile. Notwithstanding this striking resemblance to the medusa scintillans, Le Roy, in consequence of a preconceived theory, did not suppose what he saw were animals, but particles of an oily or bituminous nature*.

The minute globules seen by Mr. Langstaff in the Indian ocean, were, I think, in all probability, the scintillating species of medusa; and on my shewing him some of these animals I have preserved in spirits, he entertained the same opinion.

Professor Mitchell, of New York, found the luminous appearance on the coast of America, to be occasioned by minute animals, that from his description, plainly belonged to this species of medusæ, notwithstanding which, he supposed them to be a number of the nereis noctiluca†.

The luminous animal discovered

* Observ. sur un lumiere produite par L'Eau de la mer. Mem. Estrang. des Sc.

† Phil. Mag. Vol. X. p. 30.

ed by Forster off the Cape of Good Hope, in his Voyage round the World, bears so strong a resemblance to the medusa scintillans, that I am much disposed to believe them the same. He describes his animalcule as being a little gelatinous globule, less than the head of a pin; transparent, but a little brownish in its colour; and of so soft a texture that it was destroyed by the slightest touch. On being highly magnified, he perceived on one side a depression, in which there was a tube that passed into the body, and communicated with four or five intestinal sacs. The pencil drawings he made on the spot, are in the possession of Sir Joseph Banks, by whose permission, engravings from them are subjoined to this paper. By comparing these with the representations of the medusa scintillans, and some of this species rendered visible, by being a long time preserved in spirits, which I have laid before this learned society, it will be found, that the only difference between Forster's animalcule, and the medusa scintillans, is in the appearance of the opaque parts, shewn in the microscopic views.

Many writers have ascribed the light of the sea to other causes than luminous animals. Martin supposed it to be occasioned by putrefaction; Silberschlag believed it to be phosphoric; Professor J. Mayer conjectured that the surface of the sea imbibed light, which it afterwards discharged. Bajon and Gentil thought the light of the sea was electric, because it was excited by friction. Forster conceived that it was sometimes electric, sometimes caused from putrefaction, and at others by the presence of living animals. Fougereux de Bondaroy believed that it came sometimes from electric fires, but more frequently from the

putrefaction of marine animals and plants.

I shall not trespass on the time of the Society to refute the above speculations; their authors have left them unsupported by either arguments or experiments, and they are inconsistent with all ascertained facts upon this subject.

The remarkable property of emitting light during life, is only met with amongst animals of the following classes of modern naturalists viz. Mollusca, Insects, Worms, and Zoophytes.

The mollusca and worms contain each but a single luminous species: the *pholas dactylus* in the one, and the *nereis noctiluca* in the other.

Some species yield light, in the eight following genera of insects: *elater*, *lampyris*, *fulgora*, *paucus*, *scolopendra*, *cancer*, *lynceus**, and *limulus*. The luminous species of the genera *lampyris* and *fulgora* are more numerous than is generally supposed, if we may judge from the appearance of luminous organs to be seen in dried specimens.

Amongst zoophytes we find that the genera *medusa*, *beroe*†, and *pen-natula*, contain species which afford light.

The only animals which appear to possess a distinct organization for the production of light, are the luminous species of *lampyris*, *elater*, *fulgora*, and *paucus*.

The light of the *lampyrides* is known to proceed from some of the last rings of the abdomen, which, when not illuminated, are of a pale

* The animal discovered by Riville off the coast of Malabar in 1754, is certainly a testaceous insect, and appears to belong to the genus *lynceus* of Muller.

† The luminous zoophyte for which Peron has lately instituted the new genus *pyrosoma*, appears to me to be a *beroe*, and only worthy of a specific distinction.

yellow colour. Upon the internal surface of these rings there is spread a layer of a peculiar soft yellow substance, which has been compared to paste, but by examination with a lens I found it to be organized like the common interstitial substance of the insect's body, except that it is of a closer texture, and a paler yellow colour. This substance does not entirely cover the inner surface of the rings, being more or less deficient along their edges, where it presents an irregular waving outline. I have observed in the glow-worm that it is absorbed, and its place supplied by common interstitial substance, after the season for giving light is past.

The segments of the abdomen, behind which this peculiar substance is situated, are thin and transparent, in order to expose the internal illumination.

The number of luminous rings varies in different species of lampyris, and, as it would seem, at different periods in the same individual.

Besides the luminous substance above described, I discovered in the common glow-worm, on the inner side of the last abdominal ring, two bodies, which to the naked eye ap-

pear more minute than the head of the smallest pin. They are lodged in two slight depressions, formed in the shell of the ring, which is at these points particularly transparent. On examining these bodies under the microscope I found that they were sacs containing a soft yellow substance, of a more close and homogeneous texture than that which lines the inner surface of the rings. The membrane forming the sacs appeared to be of two layers, each of which is composed by a transparent silvery fibre, in the same manner as the internal membrane of the respiratory tubes of insects; except that in this case the fibre passes in a spiral instead of a circular direction. This membrane, although so delicately constructed, is so elastic as to preserve its form after the sac is ruptured and the contents discharged.

The light that proceeds from these sacs is less under the controul of the insect than that of the luminous substance spread on the rings: it is rarely ever entirely extinguished in the season that the glow-worm gives light, even during the day; and when all the other rings are dark, these sacs often shine brightly.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

AGRICULTURE.

A HISTORY of British Implements and Machinery, applicable to Agriculture; by W. Lester, engineer, price 1*l.* 1*1s.* 6*d.* bds.

BIOGRAPHY.

The Life of Lord Viscount Nelson, of the Nile, &c. by Mr. Harrison, in 2 volumes, enriched with a beautiful portrait of the Hero, painted by Sir Wm. Beechey, R. A. price *£*1. 3*s.*

HISTORY.

The Chronicles of Enguerrard de Monstrelet; translated by Thos. Johnes, esq. in 12 vols. 8vo. with plates, price *£*7. 4*s.* bds.

The Historie of Cambria, now called

Wales; by Humphry Lloyd; corrected, arranged, and continued, by David Powell, in 1584, price *£*2. 12*s.* 6*d.*

LAW.

Doubts upon the Reasoning of Dr. Paley, relative to, and observations on, the criminal law; by R. G. Arrowsmith, price 2*s.* 6*d.*

The nature and practice of Real Actions in their Writs and Process, both original and judicial; by G. Booth, esq. price 16*s.* bds.

Principia Legis & Refutales; a collection of Maxims, Principles, or Rules, Definitions, and Memorable Sayings, in Law and Equity; by Thos. Brancha, esq. price 5*s.* boards.

A Practical Treatise on the Power and Duties of Juries, and on the Criminal Law of England; by Sir Richard Phillips, Knt. price 8s. 6ds.

MISCELLANIES.

A Letter to Henry Cline, esq. on imperfect development of the faculties, mental and moral, as well as constitutional and organic; and on the treatment of impediments, &c. by John Thelwall, esq. price 5s.

Elements of the Science of War; by William Muller, lieutenant of the King's German engineers, price 3l. 3s. 6ds.

Cottage Dialogues among the Irish peasantry; by Mary Leadbeater, with notes and a preface by Maria Edgeworth, price 6s. 6ds.

A Letter to John Theodore Koster, esq. on the depreciation of Bank-notes, price 2s. 6d.

Ostell's New General Atlas, containing distinct Maps of all the principal States and Kingdoms throughout the World, price 18s. half bound.

Literary Recreations; or Moral, Historical, and Religious Essays; by Henry Card, A. M. of Pembroke College, Oxford, 2d edition, corrected and enlarged, price 7s. 6d. boards.

Political Essay on the Kingdom of New Spain; by Alexander de Humboldt, price 14 18s. 6ds.

Proposals, with the Measures and Plan detailed, for Rectifying Public Affairs, and Private Grievances, and Instituting the Happy and Divine Order of Things, intended for Mankind; by George Edwards, esq. M.D. price 1l. 1s.

The Farmer's Magazine, No. 45. price 3s. sewed.

Literary Information; consisting of instructive anecdotes, explanations, and derivations, calculated to instruct and improve the opening mind; by Mrs. Hedge-land, price 4s. 6d. bound.

An accurate Report of the Trial of Mr. Drakard, the proprietor of the Stamford News, for publishing an article on Military Punishments, price 1s.

A Report (taken in short-hand) of the trial of Messrs. Hunts, proprietors of the Examiner, for a libel.

The Juvenile Library; containing Prince Dorus, or flattery put out of countenance. Beauty and the Beast; or a rough outside with a gentle heart, price 2s. 6d.

History of the Reformation in Scotland; by George Cook, D.D. price 1l. 11s. 6d.

Microscopography; or, A piece of the

World discovered; by John Earle, D.D. price 10s. 6d.

Peregrinations of the Mind; through the most interesting subjects usually agitated in Life; by the late Wm. Baker, printer; to which is prefixed a Biographic Memoir of the Author, price 6s.

The British Constitution analyzed, by a reference to its History; by a Doctor of Laws, price 6s. boards.

Letter to the Right Honorable Henry Grattan, on the Deplorable consequence resulting to Ireland from the very low price of spirituous liquors, price 1s.

The Annual Racing Calendar; by W. Pick, 25th volume, for 1810, price 7s. boards.

M. Genet; or a Selection of Letters on Life and Manners; by the Rev. John Muckersy, price 8s. boards.

The Impartial Life of Napoleon Bonaparte; by William Van Ess, in 4 vols. with upwards of 50 portraits of French Generals, price 2l. 10s.

Guy's Pocket Cyclopædia; or Miscellany of Useful Knowledge, from the latest and best Authorities, designed for Senior Scholars in Schools, price 7s. 6ds.

MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

An Enquiry into the Nature, Causes, and Cure of Hydrothorax; by L. Maclean, M.D. price 12s. boards.

The Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal, No. 26. price 3s. sewed.

NOVELS AND ROMANCES.

The Missionary, an Indian Tale, by Miss Ovenson, in 3 volumes, with a portrait of the author; price 1l. 2s. 6d.

The Loves of Celestine and St. Aubert; by Charles Philips, A.B. price 10s. 6d.

The Times; a novel, in 2 volumes, price 10s. Fitz-Edward; or the Cambrians; by Emma de Lisle, price 15s.

Anne of Brittany; an Historical Romance, 3 vols. price 13s. 6d.

Gothio; or the Memoirs of the Wurtzburgh Family; by Mrs. S. 2 vols. price 15s. boards.

POETRY.

Poems, by Elijah Barwell Impey, esq. price 8s. boards.

Calcutta, a poem with notes, price 5s.

PLAYS.

Ourselves, a comedy; by Miss Chambers, price 2s.

The Peasant Boy; an opera.

Gustavus Vasa; the Hero of the North.

The School for Friends, a comedy; price 2s. 6d.

The Dramatic Mirror; containing the

Progress of the English Stage from the days of Julius Cesar to the present time, 2 vols. 17. 2s. 9d. bds.

THEOLOGY.

Discourses on the Providence and Government of God; by the late Rev. Newcombe Cappe, price 3s. 6d. boards.

A Calm Inquiry into the Scripture Doctrine concerning the person of Christ; by Thom. Belsham, price 14s boards.

BOOKS PUBLISHED IN IRELAND.

A Report of the Trials of the Cara-

vats and Shanavests, at the special commission, for the several counties of Tipperary, Waterford, and Kilkenny. Taken in short-hand by Randall Kernan, esq. barrister at law, price 5s.

Observations on the Diseases of the Liver, by Thomas Mills, M.D. price 9s. 4d.

On the 10th April, was published, price 5s. 5d. Wild Flowers of Erin; or Miscellaneous Poems; by John Murphy. Printed by R. Coyne, Dublin.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

"Why must we always impose on ourselves the necessity of passing through war to arrive at peace? the attainment of which is the end of all wars, and is a plain proof that recourse is to be had to war only for want of a better expedient. Nevertheless, we have so effectually confounded this truth, that we seem to make peace only that we may again be able to make war."

SULLY'S MEMOIRS.

THE late accounts from Spain and Portugal, the narrow escape of General Graham from the treachery and cowardice of his allies, and the retreat of Massena, have furnished topics during this month to revive the spirits of those, who, in their ardour for war, and in their zeal to oppose Bonaparte, overlook more remote consequences. The retreat of Massena has led the British again from their strong position near Lisbon, and from their shipping, whence they derived their supplies. To augur least despondingly, we cannot reasonably expect that they will do more than maintain their position on the borders of Spain, till the disposer of the mighty military power of France arranges his plan, and sends a portion of his great engine of oppression and misery, (for such standing armies, and a military despotism may be justly so considered,) to attempt to regain complete possession of the peninsula; an attempt in which, it must be confessed, he has

been heretofore repeatedly foiled. But the British nation has lost an immensity of blood and treasure in their scheme to support the inhabitants of those countries, who in general show no attachment to them, as allies and defenders, and are very far from acting with vigour in a cause, which they feel to be their own. The retention of some positions in Spain and Portugal cannot be of much consequence in a military point of view, unless the British have the mass of the population on their side. The inhabitants are most probably indifferent to either invading army, and are at a loss to distinguish between enemies and supposed friends. Both armies have in their respective retreats desolated the unhappy countries. The papers are now filled with the most distressing accounts of plunder and French cruelty. Probably many of these accounts are true; but let us recollect that these same prints a few months ago, glossed over the conduct of the British army in their retreat on Lisbon, and complacently told us that the destruction of the country was necessary to distress the enemy, and prevent his procuring supplies. The strictly impartial moralist condemns alike the excesses on every side, and sighs over the miseries ever inflicted on the inhabitants of an in-

vaded country both by the victorious and vanquished armies respectively in their turns.

The present highly exaggerated victories do not seem likely to have much effect on the termination of the present interminable quarrel, of which we can see no probability of any adjustment, for exasperation and the most galling provocations of petty abuse and illiberal policy are daily rendering reconciliation and a return of peace almost entirely impossible. In the mean time, the expenses of this mighty contest, and especially of the struggle on the continent are adding to the national debt, and increasing the difficulties in the department of finance, which some consider as one of the most vulnerable parts of the British empire.

We cannot justly lay claim to the character of a thinking nation, although in the vanity and arrogance of self-complacency, we often times venture to put in an unsupported claim. The majority of the nation are easily duped, and the prevailing error of the present times is a susceptibility of cullibility on such subjects as gratify their prejudices and render them pleased with the political quackery, which has, already produced so much mischief during the last fifty years. It is good to look back, and learn lessons of future caution from instances of former disappointed hopes. Some years ago the Duke of Brunswick, and some non-military closet politicians, even one man, now high in office, talked confidently of leading an army immediately to Paris; and a temporary reverse of affairs in France in 1799 led to the most extravagant hopes of a complete triumph over a nation pronounced to be in the gulph of bankruptcy. These expectations were not realized. It is encountering the certainty of being unpopular to oppose the cur-

rent of general prejudices, and to recommend caution in the moments of intemperate zeal, and highly raised hopes, but they who really love their country, and are desirous to promote her dearest interests will not be dismayed, but will venture to recommend an abatement of excitement, and to point out the dangers of continuing in a system of self-delusion, which has already produced such ruinous consequences.

George Canning took an opportunity after the battle of Barrosa, of proclaiming to the house of commons, the wisdom with which he and his quondam colleagues had planned the defence of the peninsula, and the ability with which it had been conducted. After so long a period of disaster, he might think himself justified in triumphing on a supposed successful reverse. It is however too soon to rejoice. The termination of the business ought to be waited for, before high gratulations can be given. *

The attack on the island of Anholt by the Danes, and the vigorous defence made by Captain Maurice

* It is probable that Napoleon is restrained by the fear of some explosion in Russia, Holland, or even in Germany, which only waits for his setting out, himself, for Spain or Portugal. If, as the *Moniteur* owns, 800,000 Frenchmen be employed in the Peninsula, the reason surely is sufficient for England wishing to fix the *Campus Martius* in these countries, rather than at home. If she can discipline the men fit for arms in Portugal and Spain, by experienced British officers, feeding them well, cloathing them handsomely, and paying them regularly, they will quickly forget the miseries of old men, women, and children, and, *for the time*, prove faithful and efficient allies. In fact, the campaign is only beginning, and if the English army has no other advantage, it will certainly profit by the lessons in tactics it will receive before its termination.

ad the British afford another proof of the destructive energies of war, and the misapplication of the powers of man to mutual annoyance. Every vent connected with Denmark renews the regret at the unjust and unwise policy, which forced that country into hostility with us, and into an unnatural alliance with France.

The revolution in Spanish America appears from the best, and most partial accounts to be making progress. Miranda is now at Caracas, and is hailed as their leader. His former enlightened views give some hopes of future good, if he do not act like others, who, when in the possession of power have basely turned apostates to the cause of liberty. The friends to the amelioration of man, have grounds to hope, for good results to the cause of liberty in Spanish America, if recent events in France did not cause them almost entirely to despond, and to distrust the fairest appearances.

As a prominent occurrence in our domestic relations, and as an augury of hope in future, we may notice the answer of the Prince Regent, on an application for a grant to General Charles Craufurd to be governor of the Military College at Marlow. "I never can, or will consent to bestow any place or appointment, meant to be an asylum or reward for the toils and services of our gallant soldiers and seamen on any person on account of parliamentary connexion, or in return for parliamentary votes. This is my fixed determination: and I trust I shall never again be solicited in the same way." The minister bowed and retired. General Craufurd is step-father to the Duke of Newcastle, who is lately come of age, and who has the command of several votes in the house of commons. After some attempts on the part of the ministerial news papers to in-

validate the truth of the story, the authenticity of it appears to be fully confirmed. The Duke of Newcastle, it is said, suffered the affair to leak out, and thus the public are put in possession of an important fact, of great importance, as indicative of future honourable intentions. General Craufurd previously had a pension of 1200*l.* a year for his own life, and that of the Duchess his wife. He had a Regiment of Dragoon Guards, and was Lieutenant Governor of Tynemouth. These are pretty ample pickings to be enjoyed out of the taxes of an impoverished, and overburthened state. Surely there is need of a radical reform, and an entire change of system.

The parliamentary proceedings during this month have not been of much importance, if we except the triumph of humanity and sound policy in Sir Samuel Romilly's bills to abridge in certain cases the punishment of death, being permitted to pass through the house of commons, and the negative put on Lord Folkestone's motion, in relation to the increased number of informations ex officio by the Attorney General in case of libels. Sir Vicary pleaded his own cause, and a majority, rather than force of argument, sheltered him from any inquiry, which he strongly opposed. It is worthy of remark that unless when some party question affecting the interests of the Outs is agitated, the candidates for place seldom attend, and the house is left so thin, as in some cases not to have a sufficient number to proceed to business. The party of the people, a small band, the enlightened Sir Samuel Romilly, the intrepid Sir Francis Burrett, and the honest Samuel Whitbread, with a few others, are vigilantly at their posts; while some of the leading oppositionists mani-

fect by their conduct, for what selfish interests they are contending. As they forget the interests of their country, their country have no right to sympathize with them in their ardent desires to be in place.

G. W. Wynne's bill more effectually to prevent bribery at elections, was not strongly supported by any side. The friends of patronage, on both sides of the house, wish to put no additional checks on their trade, and the friends to parliamentary reform doubted the efficacy of the bill radically to cut up the evil. They feared that unless the borough system was completely reformed, attempts at regulation would only throw the monopoly of boroughs into the hands of government; and that if direct purchase by means of money were prevented, the more secret but not less pernicious influence of offering places and pensions, and of these powerful engines, government have the sole possession, would in such a case be more effectually exerted. The bill was thrown out in a thin house.

Among the accounts from Ireland laid before parliament, large sums appeared for publishing proclamations. Government well understand the secret of silencing the periodical press in their manner of selecting the papers, which they favour by giving to them proclamations to insert. The people also should understand the business, and know that they pay dearly in their taxes for the apathy and venality of the public prints. Thus burdens are increased, and public spirit is destroyed by the operation of favouritism. Contrasted with such disgraceful transactions, how honourable was the honest boast made by Horne Tooke in the house of commons during the short time he was a member of that house, that in his little property, not

one stake would be found which had been stolen out of the public fence.

We hear of a further suppression of the freedom of the press at Amsterdam. The licentiousness of one of their presses complained of; some hints are given of immoral publications having issued from it, and then comes the real cause of suppression, inflammatory political publications tending to unsettle the public mind against all the governments, to which Holland has been subjected.

This press is termed an excrescence and is silenced by force. The government of France not equal other regular governments in their reproaches on a free press. It is an unwilling homage, they are forced to pay to the powers of the press, which when virtue is joined to efficacy, deserves all the praise which can be bestowed upon it, but when corrupted by an unfair alliance with power, proves that the corruption of the best thing becomes the most pernicious.*

The cause of Catholic emancipation has during this month received additional accession of liberalities both from Protestants and Catholics. The resolutions of a Catholic meeting at Newry, placed among the documents, state their grievances, and the errors of favouring an opposite party, in forcible and just terms. It is pleasing to see that they do not hold an exclusive language, or suffer themselves, by the party language and conduct of their opponents, to be driven themselves into an excluding party, but are willing to unite with Protestants as fellow members of the state, without any reference to religious opinions. The Catholics have been long unjustly excluded from their rights, but hence they do not derive a claim to exclude others. The wrongs com-

* For Baron Smith's remarks on the press see page 336.

mitted by one party will not justify an inclination to commit a wrong by the other. We are opposed to all narrow excluding notions on any side. Let us embrace as brethren, and banish religious distinctions, respecting them: let us cordially agree to hold different sentiments with mutual good will.

Protestants and Catholics met with becoming union at Ennis, and jointly petitioned for the removal of all distinctions. Another signal instance of the triumph of liberality over prejudice occurred in the county of Tipperary. The Sheriff refused to sanction a call of a meeting, but some magistrates joined in appointing a meeting, which was held at Thurles. Much liberality was displayed both by Catholics and Protestants, and an energetic address to the Prince Regent, and petition to the house of commons, which will be found at page 337, were unanimously agreed to. After the Protestants withdrew, the Catholics honourably concluded the meeting by a vote of thanks to their Protestant brethren. Thus indeed it is a good and pleasant prospect to see brethren dwell together in unity. Bad policy towards Catholics has driven them into seclusion; a contrary conduct might be expected to cause an expansion, and a complete embracement of general principles.

The Catholics have especial cause to complain of a system of favouritism, in dispensing the laws towards them. A disposition, fatal to the best interests of Ireland, prevails among that class of men, who assume the character for exclusive loyalty, to attribute to Orangemen a similar claim. Division, and the favouring of a particular party, always produce weakness in a government. The excluded party become discontented, while the favoured are turbulent and audacious

through impunity, and not infrequently in the end turn on their supporters. Hence in those clanish drunken quarrels, which so generally disgrace Ireland, feuds are perpetuated; the triumphant rely on the encouragement and impunity they receive from the magistracy; the others despairing of open redress, brood over their grievances in secret, and kept down by day, they seek their revenge in the night. Even in this more civilized portion of Ireland, instances of favour extended through party motives, are not infrequent. A few days ago, two men had a trifling quarrel in a market, in the county of Antrim, the Orangeman abused his antagonist, and called him a Papist thresher, absurdly introducing religious and political distinctions into a quarrel connected with neither. The other, turning away, said to some of the by-standers, "I could beat that man now, but if I did, my life would not be safe, as he would collect his brethren in another place, and overpower me." In another quarrel, on the same day, an assailant, on being apprehended in an act of outrage, by a peace-officer, exclaimed, "I am an Orangeman, and I call on all Orangemen to defend me!"

While the manner of executing the laws, favours such a system of private outrage, and while all are not secure of the most strict impartiality in the administration of justice, things are not as they ought to be, and Ireland cannot be tranquil. Innumerable evils proceed from the system of Orangeism, and notions of exclusive loyalty. In nine instances out of ten, (in ninety-nine instances out of an hundred some would say,) if the motives of the outrageously loyal, were closely analyzed, it would be found, that they originate in some selfish regard,

in some wish to obtain or retain posts for themselves, their sons, relations, and connexions. They boast of pre-eminent exclusive loyalty, but they possess only a supposititious quality, in which the public good is a fraction of the lowest value, and a regard to selfish interest the almost entire component. Fictitious loyalty is loud and assuming, always obtrusive on public observation, and fails of its end, and becomes languid, if it do not pretty speedily acquire the notice of the dispensers of the favours of government. By its fruits the tree is easily known. The prawlers for loyalty, by overacting their parts, frequently discover themselves.

Although the following statement has already appeared in most of the public papers, we give to it a record in our retrospect, as handing down to future times a well authenticated account of the grievous sufferings brought on by the present war.

"The petition intended to be presented to the House of Commons, by the manufacturers in Glasgow, and its neighboured, contains the following melancholy representation:

Of 9,560 looms, in Glasgow and its immediate vicinity, 3889 were empty on the 8th of February last. In the four following weeks there must have been 500 more idle: in all, 4,389. The manufacturing towns and villages in the country were still more deficient of employment: of 825 looms in Hamilton, 365 were idle at the same period. The following statement may be relied on as correct:—

	<i>Looms.</i>	<i>Idle.</i>
Girvan,.....	500	409
Airdrie,.....	700	400
Stonehouse,.....	60	59
Kilmarnock,.....	800	460
Stevenson,.....	105	80
Castle Douglas,.....	80	78
Langholm,.....	150	105

"Other places are in proportion: so that the idle looms, in West of Scotland, are taken below the truth, when stated at *fifteen thousand*. It is well known, that every loom laid idle, turns another person out of the employment of winding, serving, ornamenting, &c.; which, when taken into account, swells the list of idle persons to *thirty thousand*."

The friends of parliamentary reform have been greatly exhilarated by a declaration said to have been made by the Prince Regent, on the minister's recommendation of General Craufurd, to the office of Governor of the military college at Marlow. A coalition is spoken of between the leading advocates for immediate and effectual, and those for gradual and moderate reform, and a canvass of town and county meetings is proposed for the co-operation of the people, we presume, by petitions to parliament.

And so, and so, you are once more to measure the same weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable round, and with the same likelihood of eventual success. "To collect the sense of the people!" why, the people have told you again, and again, and again, that they wish most anxiously for a reform, as if indeed there was any need of informing us, that it must be the natural wish of every proprietor in the kingdom, to have a proportionate share of political power, and to be a real, not a virtual constituent in the constitution. You mock the people with asking such a question. Of the people, rightly so called, the *impartial* people, not one in ten thousand who do not desire their political rights. Of the *elemosynary* people, who depend, for themselves, and for all their connexions, upon post, place, pension, and expectancy, not one in ten-thousand (and since the war they are to be reckoned by tens and hundreds of thousands) but

would resist a political reform, as they would their personal dissolution.

The *reason* of the people is as much satisfied upon the subject as it can be. In this country, thirty counties petitioned for reform, thirty years ago, and were then told by Lord Charlemont, an amateur of liberty and the fine arts, to persevere, and that they would be sure of accomplishing their purpose. Thus we are satisfied of any gospel truth, and so we depart, calmly convinced of the doctrine promulgated by the preacher, but the practical reform is from year to year procrastinated, until at length some striking calamity, or severe malady, rouses to a sense of duty, and brings on a panic of repentance. Is it not a truth, that deliverance from a bad habit, either in the individual, or the nation, must be effected by what may be called a sudden *wrench of mind*, which both in personal and public character is most likely to be the consequence, of misfortune, and often from the dread of impending dissolution?

Most painful and embittered are often our sensations, when we cannot sympathize as we think we ought; when we are not first in bailing, with hand and heart, the successes of our gallant soldiery, and our unrivalled marine, damped as we are with the consciousness of these successes adding strength and permanence to the multiplied errors and crimes of a most base and corrupt political system, which is, in truth, the perennial fountain of so much private as well as public immorality. In the alarming crisis, that we cannot help thinking approaches, with respect to the utter depreciation of our paper currency, we extract a consolatory hope, that a calamity of this kind, disastrous as it will, no doubt, prove to many, may yet

operate in occasioning this aforesaid wrench of disposition, in the most *perverse* parties.

Thus may be accomplished a bloodless revolution, by demonstrating the absolute necessity of creating, not a bank confidence, not a money confidence, but a moral confidence in the integrity and impartiality of a provident and paternal government, actuated by the will, and inspired with a real regard to the welfare of the whole people.

In short, we believe that a parliamentary reform *will never* take place, but under the *compulsion of extraordinary circumstances*; and if the annihilation of paper credit should occasion this exigence, we shall, in any event, be comforted, that ministry has been driven to its last and best resource,—the bullion of the British heart, a bullion which will, however, be obstinately *hoarded*, until the proper means be taken of calling it forth—viz. by a just and adequate representation of the people in parliament.

We may remark, by the way, on this subject of the excess of worthless paper money, that were the *waste lands* and *commons* of the kingdom, to be appropriated as a landed security for the gradual extinction of the excess of paper, it might, under the guarantee of parliament, regain a full value in circulation, as the representative of real and exchangeable property. Paper would then have an equivalent. Sinking credit a substantial support. Population would be sustained by paper, and the capacity of the soil might be able to preserve some proportion to the fecundity of the species. There would be a paper's worth, as well as a money's worth, in the country, which in the course of some years, might accumulate in production, and the quantity of crop

x x

raised from the waste and neglected surface, would be a worthy substitute for the incessant abstraction of coin. These notes might be signed by Maktus, and Co. as some provision against the evils of his indefinite multiplication.

While other countries are falling back upon their resources, and endeavouring by every means to become less dependent on each other; while America is making use of her non-importation act as a *bounty* for the encouragement of her own manufactures; while France is training all Europe in the same economical policy, and setting herself the example of allocating 80,000 acres of her territory for the cultivation of beet root-sugar and the woad indigo, and the same number of acres for the cultivation of cotton and tobacco, while this underselling, and non-consumption policy of state, is silently, and surely, systematising throughout the world, England keeps her wastes in excellent preservation, and depends on importations from abroad, for her daily bread. Let her coin her wastes. Let her give fresh currency to her depreciated constitution. Let her instead of adding to the value of dollars, raise the value of two millions of acres, and of *five millions of men*.

Let her Prince set himself at the head of the people, and do it, in time enough to save his country. He will otherwise find himself in the inextricable folds of a serpentine faction, he will grow inured to all the bad habits, and contaminated by the evil practices to which, at present, he is an involuntary accessory. The times require not merely an amiable and indolent deference of filial duty, but a heroic accomplishment of that prime and paramount duty, which the governor owes to the governed, and the power of performing which is placed

by Providence, thus early, in his hands, that he may avert the impending danger, and approve himself our second great deliverer. There is no medium, our George must either kill the Dragon of Corruption, or he himself, and a whom he protects, will be destroyed by its baleful breath.

Our fugitive leaves aspire scarcely to diurnal reputation, much less a posthumous fame. Sufficient for the day, is the good thereof. We do not even speculate upon the literary distinction of appearing great—in a little book-case. There is a certain aristocracy in authorship, which we think militates much against the real utility of the press. There is an egotism, a selfishness which looks less to the public advantage, and to the general spread of knowledge, than to individual gratification. The primary, and not the secondary object is, to be contemplated by what is called the learned few, or, a still higher delight, to contemplate *itself*, throned upon the shelf of a library; in a darling duodecimo, of the very neatest typography. Perhaps after the painful probation of ten revolving years, to satisfy supreme ambition, and to gloat, with miserly fondness, on the imposing magnitude of a massy quarto, with its dedication, and decoration, and first and second prefaces, and posterior proofs, and illustrations, of little addition, and plentiful iteration. The authorship that will not condescend to commit itself to the "vulgarity" of periodical publication, is much more regardful of its dear little self, than either of enlightening mankind, or performing a good service to the genuine interests of literature. The wealth of mind, like the wealth of a nation, is often heaped up for the use of a *craft*, rather than diffused for the benefit of the *kind*, and never circulates through the

ness of the community. Literature, being still at size, rather than intrinsic value, partakes much more of the nature of a monopoly, and exclusive manufacture, than of that elemental usefulness, which was designed by providence to warm the whole world with its rays, and to bear it with their effulgence. Benjamin Franklin did infinitely more good to others, and even to eternizing his own name, by condensing knowledge into nut-shells, and throwing it in a cheap and easy form, among the populace, than these voluminous men of letters, who expand their globules of genius, into such an extent of surface, and illustrate the astonishing divisibility of mind, as well as matter.

"It is this miserable trick of overrating the importance of all our conceptions, (say the Edinburgh Reviewers, who, by the bye, do not fall short in the faculty of ingenious amplification,) that has made our recent literature so intolerably diffuse and voluminous. No man, for example, has now the forbearance to write essays as short as Plume's, even if he had talents to make them as good; nor will any one be contented with stating his views and arguments in a popular and concise manner, and leaving them to their fate, but we must have long speculative introductions, illustrations, and digressions, objections anticipated, and answered, verbose apologies, at once fulsome and modest, practical inferences, historical deductions, and predictions as to the effect of our doctrines, or the neglect of them, or the fate of men, and of the universe, in all time coming."

Society with us, is not perhaps divided into *castes*, separated by such insurmountable boundaries as they are in Hindostan, where the Brahmins alone are permitted to read and explain, the Kattri tribe suffer-

ed to hear, but even the listening to others who read, is deemed too great a privilege for the degraded race of Soderas. Yet without any such nominal distinction, there is, in reality, a sort of literary *cast* in these countries also, (without naming any of the other casts), through which, what may be called literary intellect circulates, as in a corner. This corner however large it may appear to the literati themselves, occupies but a small space in the edifice of society, and this class of people, highly self-opinionated as they are, and labouring, as they affect to say, and perhaps believe, under the incumbent pressure of the whole world, bear, however, but a small proportion in numbers to the rest of the mass, and in intrinsic importance, a still inferior proportion. In the republic of letters there is an aristocracy of authorship, which dedicates all its talents and acquisitions, to what may be called the privileged class of readers, who are able to *pay* for the operose and splendid manufacture of mind, and thus amply remunerate the cost of publication.

By this *partial* dedication of themselves, the literary cast becomes more careless and indifferent about the public, in the largest sense of that momentous word. In that sense, the public is not *their* patron. It only can afford time to read news-papers, and magazines, and surely no one can suppose that they could humiliate themselves to appear in such receptacles. They are apt to say, with Chamfort, the public!—the public!—how many *fools* go to make a public—and in reality the literary class, since it descended from its appropriate place, the *attic* story, to parade personally in the antichambers of the great, and, in their productions, to repose in state on the shelves of magnificent libraries, have forgotten their more

sublime, we may call it, divine, destination. What is that destination? what is that laurel crown which surrounds the temples with its never-fading verdure? what is that eternal lamp which irradiates the sepulchre, and guides posterity to pay due reverence to its august inhabitant? It is, plainly and concisely, it is, by the powers of the pen, unprostituted, and the powers of the press, unrestrained, in its public and political exercise and energies, to assist and accelerate THE SPREAD OF INTELLECT throughout the living mass of humanity, and in doing so, not to slight too contemptuously, the most easy and popular means of accomplishing a good and generous purpose.

RELIGION was once, and still, alas! continues among a large proportion of mankind, to be a mystery or craft in the possession of a priesthood, and used for the emolument and exaltation of *their* cast, above their fellow-creatures. Then, KNOWLEDGE was made a monopoly, and truth was to be a *secret* among a few philosophers, who, in the fumes of their arrogant self-opinion, despised and drove away "the profane vulgar," and instead of encouraging the progress of human improvement, with their ipse dixit, proclaimed, thus far shall these go—but no further. Then LIBERTY was to be hoarded up as an exclusive property, and it is much to be feared that the literary cast has, of late, become accessory to this felony on the human race. Windham is their orator, and Milford their historian. Blessed be the memory of Benjamin Franklin. He published *Poor Richard* for the use and improvement of the populace. He wrote little almanacks, of dense intelligence, for the *vulgar*; sublime, yet lowly. By his philanthropy, he became a benefactor to mankind, by his patriotism he became gloriously instrumental in es-

tablishing the freedom of his country, and by his philosophy he drew the lightning from heaven, and ruled, with a rod of iron, its thunder.

DOCUMENTS.

COUNTY DOWN CATHOLIC MEETING.

At a Meeting of the Roman Catholic Gentlemen and Freeholders of the county of Down, convened by public advertisement at the Sessions-house, in the town of Newry, 25th March, 1811, C. G. Cosslett, of Nutgrove, esq. in the chair.

The Petition prepared for presentation to Parliament, in the name and in behalf of the Roman Catholics of Ireland and the address to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, as voted by the aggregate meeting held in Dublin on the 8th inst. being read;

Resolved—That we entirely approve the said petition and address, and adopt them—confidently relying on the wisdom of the legislature for the removal of those disqualifications of which we justly complain and cordially participating in the expression of affectionate attachment to the person and character of his Royal Highness, and in lamenting the severe affliction with which our gracious Sovereign has been visited.

Resolved—That we regard as a most flagrant abuse of authority, the late attempt to impede the exercise of the right to petition, in his Majesty's faithful subjects, the Roman Catholics of Ireland. And we offer to the noblemen and gentlemen who compose the Catholic committee, and to the aggregate meeting, held in Dublin on the 8th inst. the tribute of our entire approbation and most grateful acknowledgements, for the ability and zeal with which they have conducted our cause, and for their manly and dignified assertion of our rights.

Resolved—That the Yeomanry associations, as established in this county and province, are founded in the most unwisdom and mischievous policy. That where Roman Catholics constitute a very large proportion of the population, and in many places are a decided majority, they are almost universally excluded from the Yeomanry corps. In this province we believe no Roman Catholic gentleman holds a military commission. In a country where divisions have been hitherto, and we fear are yet, fostered, this distinction has the most malignant influence, in perpetuating a spirit of hostile domination on one hand, and

of disgust and alienation on the other ; in bringing home to the door and to the bosom of every Roman Catholic, even down to the humblest rank of life, a conviction of the unjust degradation in which it is sought to hold him ; while it tends to exalt the uninformed Protestant into a false sense of superiority. Hence those acts of aggression and provoked retort, which frequently disturb the public peace. We trust, under the government of our beloved Prince Regent, this fruitful source of local irritation, and of mutual dissension, will be remedied by the substitution of a wise and liberal arrangement.

Resolved—That we are anxious at all times to express our gratitude to our liberal Protestant fellow-citizens, and we do declare that without their good will, it would be in vain for our happiness, that the Legislature should accomplish our legal enfranchisement. As there is nothing we so ardently desire as the perfect establishment of civil and social harmony, so is there nothing we more deprecate than the upholding of party distinctions, where all ought to have but one interest, and all have a common country to defend. It is therefore that we deeply lament the existence of associations secret in the detail of their views and objects, but avowedly exclusive of us, and we fear hostile to our just claims. To the members of those associations we would say, in the spirit of peace and charity—"Like you, we contend for the freedom of choice: for the exclusive right of the individual to the dominion of his own mind. You adopt the religious opinions of the Reformed Churches; we adhere to that system of belief and that practice of rites which was the religion of *your* as well as *our* ancestors; and which continues to be professed by three fourths of the Christian world; which is the established religion of the greatest nations, and is and has been that of the most profound philosophers and greatest statesmen. We seek not to compare the merit of this or that system of religious opinions, but we contend for the right of every man to embrace that which appears to him best. You must sympathize with us in this claim. It is your boast. Then wherefore your hostility to us? that cannot be wrong in the Catholic which is not so in the Protestant! Lay aside, countrymen, your unjust prejudices; dissolve your ill-judged exclusive associations, and let us become, what we ought to be, *one people*, united in effort for the prosperity and defence of our common country and sovereign."

Resolved—That the foregoing resolu-

tions be published in the provincial and Dublin newspapers, and a copy thereof transmitted to the State Secretary, of the Prince Regent, to be laid before his Royal Highness.

C. G. COSSLETT.

Mr. Cosslett having left the chair, and C. Russell, of Killough, esq. being called thereto—

Resolved—That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Cosslett, for his dignified and proper conduct in the chair.

C. RUSSELL.

COUNTY TIPPERARY MEETING.

To His Royal Highness, GEORGE, PRINCE of WALES, Regent of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

The Dutiful and Loyal Address of the Freeholders of the County of Tipperary, legally convened and assembled at Thurles, on the 15th of April, 1811.

May it please your Royal Highness, we the freeholders of the county of Tipperary, legally convened and assembled at Thurles, most humbly approach your Royal Highness with the warmest assurances of affectionate attachment to your Royal Person, and unshaken adherence to those sacred principles which seated your family on the throne of these realms, fully convinced that those principles afford the best security to the honour and dignity of the sovereign, and the rights and interests of the people.

In offering to your Royal Highness our sincere condolence, upon the severe affliction with which it has pleased divine providence to visit our most gracious Sovereign, it is with heartfelt consolation, that, in common with all ranks of our fellow-subjects, we behold the momentous functions of the executive power vested in a Prince so highly endowed, and so eminently qualified to exercise the regal duties—a Prince who has so greatly endeared himself to the hearts of all his Majesty's people by his moderation and forbearance, on various trying occasions, and by the attachment he has so uniformly shown to their rights and liberties—Much more proudly and confidently should we have felt this consolatory statement had the desire and expectation of the United Kingdom been realized, by confiding to your Royal Highness the full powers of the exclusive authority, assured, as we feel, that those powers would be wisely and beneficially exercised to enable the whole body of your people to meet the extraordinary exigencies of so perilous a crisis—assured, as we are that the national valour would

be stimulated by a wise and dignified, because an important distribution of reward and favor—that patriotism in its purest and most genuine meaning, would be identified with power, and that the only medium by which the people of these realms could view the supreme magistrate of the state, would be through the irradiations diffused around him from acts of benignity and munificence. Fain would we have been to forbear clouding the dawn of our intercourse with your Royal Highness by a glance even at the name of grievances, manifold, weighty, and pernicious, as those are to which we more particularly apply ourselves, but the duty we owe to our Sovereign and our country—the reverence we owe to the memory and example of our forefathers, and the justice that is claimed toward our posterity—the fame, the happiness and the safety of the empire—all, with irresistible force, forbid us to disguise our thoughts or smother our feelings.

We see with a mixed contemplation of shame and sorrow, the political unity of a great people hazarded. We see Ireland, the most essential bulwark of the British name and glory, paralyzed in her exertions—degraded in her character—her valor checked by unworthy suspicion—her emulation expressed by servile and unwarrantable distinctions—her people divided without meaning, and her strength and her integrity depreciated by imputations that at once she disclaims and detests—and laying before your Royal Highness the common sentiments of a loyal, generous, and ardent people of all religious persuasions, we do most humbly implore your Royal Highness' early and earnest attention to the situation of the Irish Catholics.

By the present system of laws, the Catholic of Ireland is mocked and tantalized, by having laid open to him every avenue (that to the church alone excepted) which leads to wealth, and power, and dignity; and thus he may drudge and labour in the dull and discouraging pursuits of Science that are divested of all those lures to activity, by which every other description of men are incited to great exertion; or he may fight and fall in the field, under a sense of duty abstracted from all the noblest and most inspiring incentives to glory. In either case he is so circumstanced, that the zeal, which in others animates study or invigorates labour, and the heroism that inspires to deeds of valour, are damped and chilled in him, by the heart-rending reflection, that however nobly or meritoriously he may struggle for the final advantage, he can never

attain it—that however he may be permitted to waste his life in pursuing the path to fame and power, the entrance, when he arrives at it, is shut for ever against him.

By this system of laws, and the system of government consequently acting upon them, the remaining restrictions operating against the Roman Catholics, exhibit the appearance of a blind infatuation conferring upon French and other foreign Roman Catholic officers, what it offensively refuses to native Irish; filling the hearts of Irish millions with indignation and resentment, and laying them open to the influence of passions, which cannot be contemplated without horror.

In beseeching your Royal Highness' favourable attention to our common supplication, we approach your Royal Highness with the greater degree of confidence, because we cannot but hope, that when the two great classes of Protestants and Catholics, for mutual preservation, shall make common cause, in pursuit of an object that we all think indispensable, the few but odious remaining restrictions upon the Catholic body, smitten by the united rays of the law, the constitution, the nation and the throne, must, like a noxious exhalation, melt and disappear.

We do therefore humbly entreat, that your Royal Highness may be graciously pleased to recommend to the Imperial Parliament, the immediate consideration of the state of the Irish Catholics, and the urgent necessity of restoring them to the full participation of all the advantages and blessings of our glorious Constitution—blessings and advantages to which we humbly submit that they are now highly and justly entitled, to a still more ample extent than what was assured to that body under the solemn treaty of Limerick, signed by King William, to the security of which, they have in much more than a proportionate degree contributed by their treasure and their lives; to the enjoyment of which under your Royal Highness and every branch of your illustrious family thus have eminently entitled themselves by an unabated loyalty toward the House of Brunswick, and by their uniform, ardent, and steady attachment for six hundred and fifty years to their natural alliance with Great Britain. In support of which every battle that has been fought, and every victory that has been gained, from the earliest periods of our history, under the British banners, by sea or land, in every climate of the earth, has been highly attributable to Irish valour and Irish loyal-

ty bleeding and dying for British glory and sealing with the best blood of Ireland the bond of British connexion.

With these views, may it please your Royal Highness, we trust that it will appear but a claim of common justice on behalf of this numerous, opulent, and loyal majority of the Irish people, that they should at once be freed from every species of restriction and disability, and be placed on a full and fair footing of perfect equality with the most favored of his majesty's most loyal subjects.

On thus approaching your Royal Highness with our sincere congratulations, we have attempted to discharge an honest duty, at once to your Royal Highness and the people of the empire, in humbly suggesting a measure, by the recommendation and accomplishment of which, your Royal Highness will ensure the gratitude, and combine the strength of this vast portion of the empire, and entail upon your name and character the love, admiration and blessings of the time in which you live, and the reverence of ages yet to come.

To the Right Hon. and Hon. the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The Humble Petition of the undersigned Gentlemen, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the county of Tipperary, comprising persons professing various religious persuasions,

SHewETH,

That we, your petitioners, being actuated by sentiments of attachment to the true principles of the constitution, and sincerely desirous to promote the internal concord and general prosperity of our country, by every measure of conciliation, good will, and justice towards all classes and descriptions of our fellow subjects, beg leave to represent to this honourable house, that we view with particular regret and disapprobation, the existing code of penal and disabling statutes, which aggrieve and degrade the Roman Catholics of these realms, adhering to the faith of their forefathers.

This obnoxious code, at all times unjust in its principle, and violating an ancient and solemn treaty, appears to us, at this critical period of national exigency, to be peculiarly ill-timed and unadvised.

Besides infringing the sacred rights of private conscience, and violating the first principles of legislation, it insults and degrades every individual of the Catholic community, stigmatises them as unwor-

thy of confidence, and proscribes them as aliens in their native land.

Thus disuniting the people, thus prolonging needless discussions, and alienating the great majority of the Irish population from the State, this code is the certain source of national weakness, and imminent public danger. Without the zealous co-operation of the Catholic community, that right arm of Ireland, no reflecting man can confidently reckon upon an effectual resistance to the common foe, in the trying hour of peril; and it is but natural to presume, that such co-operation will be best ensured by augmenting their interest in the maintenance of the constitution, by extending to them its full benefits, without reserve or restriction; by acts of substantial justice, and even of marked kindness, towards this faithful and well-deserving people, from whom, perhaps, within a very short period, the most arduous services, and of inestimable value, will be necessarily and anxiously demanded.

We are of opinion, therefore, that no other measure can so effectually tend to the firm defence and preservation of these islands, to internal union and general security, as a full and complete restoration of all the rights and benefits of the constitution to the Catholic people.

Justice, no less than sound policy, demands the immediate adoption of this measure. Liberty of conscience, and the unfettered exercise of private judgment in the choice of religion, are the inalienable birth-right of every man, and cannot be invaded by human power, without disrespect to that merciful Deity, who tolerates all religions; and graciously accepts from all men the genuine worship of the heart, in whatsoever language, and under every form.

The experience of nations has also shewn, that intolerance can never be practiced with impunity; in its gloomy train are ever to be found national discord, disgrace, decay, and finally, desolation of the most disastrous nature. May the Almighty avert such dire calamities from this empire.

As members of various religious communities, Protestants as well as Catholics, we disclaim all coercive laws concerning religious subjects.

We solemnly protest against the prolongation of a code, founded in such coercion; and however different our respective modes of faith, yet we cordially concur in earnestly praying, as the first and choicest blessing to Ireland, that those

odious laws which inflict discord upon our country, and have long been reprobated by all humane and liberal men, may be altogether abandoned, and give place to such healing and conciliatory measures, as shall restore to us, the benefits of domestic union and tranquility, efface even the remembrance of religious intolerance, and suffer not a vestige of it to remain in these islands.

We therefore seriously do beseech this hon. house to repeal all and every the penal disabling and exclusive laws, which aggrieve and injure the Roman Catholics of these realms, and to reinstate them effectually in the full participation of all the rights and benefits of the laws and constitution of this empire, equally and in common with their fellow subjects, without any distinction of religious communion.

After the Protestants withdrew, the Catholics voted thanks to their Protestant brethren, for their exertions on their behalf.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCES.

Died, on the 1st of this month, at Balnmore, Lydia the wife of James White, master of a boarding-school in that place. This amiable young woman, who had little more than completed her 24th year, had most exemplarily discharged her several duties of life, and in the important relation of presiding over the domestic arrangements of a large school, by her tender and motherly care over the boys, had eminently gained their affections, and gave the strongest indications of future usefulness, if her life had been prolonged. But a rapid decline terminated her earthly prospects, and snatched her from her husband, and friends. It is not intended by a pompous display of her many amiable qualities to describe her character. Such a display would ill suit to delineate her modest and retiring virtues. She will long survive in the memory of her friends. Hers was,

"A heart within whose sacred cell,
The peaceful virtues lov'd to dwell.
Affection warm, and faith sincere,
And soft humanity were there.
In agony and death resign'd,
She felt the wound, she left behind."

She was endowed with a sweetness uncommon, and had a mildness in her manner, and in her countenance, that bespoke evenness and amiableness of mind. As she grew up, her mind was particularly turned to compassionate the poor, often visiting

in the cottages, and procuring little matters which she could obtain for them, suited to their necessities. She had an extensive interest amongst all ranks, but particularly the poor."

BLEACHERS PETITION.

The progress of the bill founded on this petition has been thus announced by Sir S. Romilly:—

Lincoln's-Inn, April 10, 1811.

SIR,

I have great pleasure in informing you that the bill to take away capital punishment for the offence of stealing from bleach greens, and to substitute the punishment of transportation for life, or a shorter time, at the discretion of the judge, in its place, has, together with some other bills for similar objects, passed the house of commons, and was yesterday carried up to the lords. What will be its fate there, I cannot tell; but as the bill was indebted for its favourable reception in the commons entirely to the petition which you transmitted to me, and as no notice can be properly taken in the house of lords of that petition, I think it right to mention to you that a petition to the lords to the same effect as that which was presented to the commons, would be likely to be attended with extremely good effects.—The bill is not to be debated for some time, probably not for a month, or perhaps longer—whether that interval will allow of preparing and transmitting a petition, you can best judge. I shall endeavour to make the best use I can of the important facts mentioned by you, in your letter of the 9th of last month.

I am, Sir,

With very great regard,

Your most obedient servant,

SAMUEL ROMILLY.

JOHN HANCOCK, Lisburn.

At a meeting of the proprietors of bleach-greens, held in Lisburn, pursuant to public advertisement the 16th of April, 1811, John M'Cance, esq. in the chair. The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:

That this meeting has observed with much satisfaction, that through the zealous exertions of Sir Samuel Romilly, and his enlightened endeavours to reform the criminal code, a bill founded on our petition to the house of Commons, has been carried through that house, which takes away the capital punishment for the offence of stealing from bleach-greens, and substitutes transportation for life, or a shorter time, at the discretion of the judge.

That in furtherance of the plan a petition be presented to the house of Lords,

similar to the one sent to the house of Commons.

Which petition having been now agreed on, the committee formerly appointed, are desired to use endeavours to have it as fully signed, as the short time before the necessity of having it presented will admit, and that it be forwarded to the Marquis of Hertford, with a request that he may present it to the house of Lords.

JOHN M'CANCE, *Chairman.*

THE FOLLOWING IS A COPY OF THE BILL
TAKING AWAY FELONY OF DEATH FOR
STEALING FROM BLEACH-GREENS, AS IT
PASSED THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

A Bill to repeal so much of an act, passed in the parliament of Ireland, in the third year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An act for the better regulation of the linen and hempen manufactures," as takes away the benefit of clergy from felons convicted of stealing cloth from bleaching grounds; and for more effectually preventing such felonies.—Ordered by the house of commons to be printed, 7th March, 1811.

Whereas by an Act made in the Parliament of Ireland, in the third year of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled, "An Act for the better Regulation of the Linen and Hemp Manufactures," it is amongst other things enacted, That no felon convicted according to the course of the law and statutes of that kingdom, of stealing of linen, hempen or cotton-yarn, or linen or hempen cloth, or cloth made of linen and cotton yarn, or any materials or utensils used in bleaching the same, above the value of five shillings, from or out of any bleachyard, buckhouse or workhouse thereunto belonging, whether the fact be committed by day or night, shall be allowed the benefit of clergy:

And whereas the said Act has not been found effectual for the prevention of the crimes therein mentioned, and it is therefore expedient that so much of the said Act as is hereinbefore recited, should be repealed:

And whereas it might tend more effectually to prevent the aforesaid crimes, if the same were punishable more severely than simple larceny;

Be it therefore enacted, by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, That so much of the said Act as is hereinbefore recited, shall from the passing of this act be and the same is hereby repealed.

And be it further enacted, that from the

passing of this act, every person who shall be convicted in Ireland, according to the course of the law and statutes of that part of the united kingdom, of feloniously stealing linen, hempen or cotton yarn, or linen or hempen cloth, or cloth made of linen and cotton yarn, or any materials or utensils used in bleaching the same, above the value of five shillings, from or out of any bleachyard, buckhouse thereunto belonging, whether the fact be committed by day or night, shall be liable to be transported beyond the seas for life, or for such term, not less than seven years, as the judge before whom any such person shall be convicted shall adjudge, or shall be liable, in case the said judge shall think fit to be imprisoned only, or to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour in the common gaol, house of correction or penitentiary house, for any term not exceeding seven years.

BELFAST SUNDAY AND LANCASTRIAN SCHOOLS.

The committee and teachers of the Belfast Sunday and intended Lancastrian daily Schools take the liberty of laying before the public a statement of the present condition of that Institution, as well with respect to the funds, as to the progress they have made in bringing to maturity the objects they have long had in view.

By a rigid economy, and the unwearied perseverance of the members of this Association, the Sunday School has been carried on for upwards of nine years with great advantage to a number of poor children, who were precluded from all other modes of obtaining education, and this at the trifling average sum of £37: 10 per annum; of which £30 has been annually expended for the rent of a school-room; so that the instructing of nearly 300 children has been effected at the small annual expense of £17: 10.

To give permanence to the institution and render it of that public utility required in such a town as Belfast, it has long been the ardent wish of the persons concerned, to accomplish the building of a suitable house, and to graft on their system that of a daily school on the Lancastrian plan. It is with great pleasure, therefore, they can announce that the liberality of the public last year has enabled them nearly to carry this object into effect, the house being now almost prepared for the reception of upwards of 500 children, to be taught in the Lancastrian manner, and the Sunday School, much increased in number, having been held in it for some months past.

The managers, in corresponding with Mr. Lancaster, understand from him that it is his intention to visit this town in July next; and though they had requested him to send a young man here in May, for the purpose of opening and conducting the school, yet on the prospect of Mr. Lancaster's presence so shortly after that period, they have desired him to defer sending any person, until he comes himself, as they conceive the school may be commenced more advantageously while he is on the spot to organize the system, and arrange the details; but should any casualty prevent his coming so soon, the young man is to be sent in July at farthest.

The managers have great satisfaction in stating to the public that the Sunday School is much increased, and well attended, since it has been removed to the new house; 255 applicants for admission, however, still remain on the books for want of accommodations in desks and forms; and no part of the lower story being yet finished they will not be able to admit all for some time.

When the improvement in the morals of the children, and their bestowing education on those who never would by other means obtain it, are considered, the committee and teachers look with confidence for the continued support of their fellow-citizens in their laudable undertaking: and they hope that such as have not been called on last year, will evince by the liberality of their contributions, the sense they entertain of the importance of the object in view.

From several circumstances the building of the house was protracted till late last season; and the school-room which they then occupied being required by the owners, lest the school should be dispersed for want of accommodations, a circumstance highly dangerous to the institution, the managers were induced to hurry on the building, though by so doing they were obliged to incur a considerable debt.

For funds to liquidate that debt, to fit up the present school-room on the Lancasterian plan, and to finish and prepare one end of the lower storey for a girl's school, the managers have again to solicit the aid of a generous public, which has never yet been applied to in vain for the support of any useful institution.

The committee and teachers therefore hope that the utility of both daily and Sunday schools is so evident as to require little to be said on the subject, and that they will be enabled speedily to mature and perfect their plans, which bid fair even-

tually to be of the greatest advantage to the rising generation.

The committee and teachers have to acknowledge, that several gentlemen, not natives of Belfast, have generously come forward in the most handsome manner with their subscriptions in aid of the institution, for which they take this opportunity of returning them their sincere thanks.

Money expended since the commencement of the building.....	£ 1014 15 7
Due sundry persons.....	512 0 0

£1526 15 7

Recd. from the treasurer? of the Sunday school...	£416 18 10
Subscriptions recd. in 1810	539 12 84
Subscriptions in 1810 to collect	47 10 0

£1104 1 64

Due,	£422 14 04
On the books as attending scholars...	366
On the list for admission.....	255
Admitted since May, 1810.....	103
Admitted since the commencement	1108

The following persons are appointed to collect subscriptions:—Dr. Tennent, Thos. McCabe, Wm. Thompson, Robt. Callwell, Wm. Stevens, James M'Adam, Robert M'Gee, M. D.

Edmund Burke, who may be considered as the chief of the bedarkeners, lamented the fall of chivalry. Were he now living, he would be saved the pains of bewailing the downfall of superstition. That it yet remains may be seen by the following advertisement. Unless there is a large stock of credulity in England, imposture would not go to the expense of announcing such a publication as the following.

A NEW AND COMPLETE ILLUSTRATION OF
OCCULT SCIENCES:

Or, the scientific art of ascertaining future events and contingencies, by the aspects, positions and influences of the heavenly bodies; comprehending the doctrine and influence of the stars, and the astrological pre-science of futurity, exemplified by the recent examples of things foretold by the author, which have actually come to pass; with rules and examples enabling every purchaser to do the same. Also, the calculation of nativities, and the art of foretelling the principal events of human life; with a general display of the art of magic, divination, exorcism, and familiarity of spirits; and the causes and prediction of the French revolution, which was foretold by the author in this work, and

published six years before it took place.—
By E. Sibly, M. D. F. R. H. S.

In 60 weekly numbers, at 8d. each, or in
3 volumes 4to. 2l. 2s.—This work was
at first suppressed by act of parliament,
under the idea that it discovered secrets
dangerous to be known; but the act has
since been repealed.

MR. FINNERTY.

York Hotel, Liverpool, Tuesday, April 16.

At a meeting of the Friends of the Freedom of the Press, in the town and neighbourhood of Liverpool, held this day, pursuant to public advertisement,

WM. ROSCOE, esq. in the Chair:

It was unanimously resolved, That we cannot regard without great apprehension the support and extension given of late to the dangerous maxim that Truth may be punished as a Libel; a maxim founded only on a fiction of law, and which, if adopted into general practice, will afford a protection to every kind of misconduct and abuse, and effectually destroy what yet remains of the freedom of the British Press.

That it is the essence of a libel that it be "false, scandalous, and malicious," and that none of these appellations can in common sense be applied to a charge which can be shown to be true.

That to prosecute any person as a criminal by a mode of proceeding which deprives him of the right of manifesting his innocence, is so far from tending to the vindication of the prosecutor, that it may rather be considered as a presumptive evidence of his guilt.

That Mr. Peter Finnerty having, in the course of the late proceedings against him, ably vindicated the right of a British subject to the freedom of the Press, is entitled to the warm approbation of every friend to his country.

That in order to assist in defraying the expenses incurred by Mr. Finnerty, a subscription be opened, and that the money to be collected be transmitted to the Committee for managing the subscription for the same laudable purpose in Westminster, to be by them disposed of in whatever manner may appear most beneficial to Mr. Finnerty.

That the following gentlemen be ap-

pointed to carry the purpose of this meeting into effect—Mr. Casey, Rev. W. Shepherd, Mr. Smith, Mr. Castley, Mr. J. Slater, Mr. P. Woods, Mr. Saunders.

That Mr. Casey be appointed Treasurer to the Subscription.

That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Roscoe, for his conduct in the chair.

Subscriptions since our last received for
Peter Finnerty,

John Murphy, Banoge mills... £1 0 0

Robert Trail 0 10 0

James Scott 0 2 6

The subscription has not amounted to much. If we take this subscription as a demonstration of the public spirit of the country, it does not stand high. Timidity kept back some; a want of example, others. Apathy to the principles of freedom made many indifferent to the support of a sufferer in the cause of the liberty of the press.* Thus a nation prepares for itself the yoke by its culpable indifference. The smiles of power will ill repay a nation for the loss of independence.

Any, who wish to subscribe, are requested to give in their names during next month, as after that period, it is intended to close the subscription, and remit the amount to the Treasurer of the general subscription in London.

* Amid the many successful attempts to bear down the press, it is consolatory to observe that one Judge, at least does not join in the outcry. In a trial for a libel against the Proprietor of the Southern Reporter, Newspaper, at the late assizes at Cork, Baron Smith with much liberality observed,

"I have only to add, gentlemen, that general animadversion ought not to be strained by ingenuity into private scandal; but that perhaps in favour of the liberty of the press—rather the opposite to this straining should take place. There is, perhaps, scarcely any public animadversion, which may not by subtilty be analysed into a censure on those individuals on whom the imputation can be showed by inference ultimately to fall."

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From March 20, till April 20.

For several weeks past the weather has been dry and favourable for sowing.—The oats have been generally got into the ground in good order, and the farmers are now occupied in sowing barley and flaxseed, which are likely to get a good season from the late seasonable rains having nurtured the earth and brought on a pretty strong vegetation.

The wheat crops continue to look well, except those sown very late, which appear thin, and a fine spring of grass is observable in the meadow, and pasture grounds.

which has had the effect of lessening the demand for hay, that in the early part of the spring was selling high.

The young clover and grass look extremely well, and promise a plentiful and early supply of food for store cattle.—Where rye-grass is sown with clover, the crops appear most forward, and if farmers would give a preference to that species of grass-seed, they would generally find their account in it—one bushel to an acre is a sufficient quantity where clover accompanies it.

The markets continue to be plentifully supplied with oat-meal and potatoes at a moderate price, and grain of every kind has experienced no rise since last report.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE following description of a British merchant, which lately appeared in a London periodical publication, is so well drawn, and develops so many useful commercial maxims, and explains the difference between past and present times, that we are induced to present it to our readers, as an introduction to the present report :

“ His conduct and maxims in business, formed a striking contrast with those which before his death became so very prevalent, and which are now convulsing the commercial system in this country. He never dreamed of getting rich by one adventure, or of risking his own, and the property of others, for the purpose of making a sudden fortune. The British merchant of former times, was one of the most useful and important citizens of whom this island could boast ; an agent, who connected different countries by the ties of interest and correspondence, making their commercial intercourse of mutual benefit, and transmitting the productions of different climates to the inhabitants of all. He was the organ of communication, by which the abundance of one country, and the wants of another were made known, and he received from one its redundancies, and supplied the wants of the other. He acted upon solid information, made no random adventures, and indulged in no airy speculations. Many of those who now call themselves merchants, purchase goods upon artificial credit or securities, and without orders, without correspondence, without knowledge of markets, send them, under the direction of chance, to find purchasers in lands to them unknown. The consequences have been, that purchasers could not be found, debts could not be paid, and poverty and ruin have not only fallen upon themselves, but upon those who had confided in them. How different the old merchant and the new : “ Look at that picture, and at this ! ” Patience, industry, and decent care, were the only safe and honourable roads to wealth. He knew that he who would approach, as near as man is allowed to approach, the temple of happiness, must do it by measured steps ; that wealth if procured, cannot be enjoyed except with moderation, and that whatever keeps the active and mental powers of man employed, bids fairest to secure and preserve his comfort. He, therefore avoided those desperate risques which create extreme anxiety, and confided in the regular, steady, and sober exertions of industry. He disliked all show and ostentation, not only because he regarded them as destructive of comfort, as exciting envy, and every malignant passion, but because he regarded with displeasure all that false appearance of respect and attention which are called forth by them. He saw, with disgust, our mercantile men attempting to rival, in appearance and expense, our nobility, and he wished each order in the community to keep its own place. The foolish fashion of writing every man, who is supposed to be in good circumstances, an esquire, was very offensive to him, and he often expressed his dislike of it, when addressed under that title. The constant benefactor of his own relations, he had also attempted to serve many young men, and advanced them considerable loans ; but had so often been disappointed in what he thought his reasonable expectations of their good conduct and success, that at length his patience was exhausted in this way, and after much trouble, anxiety, and loss of property, he concluded it had become very difficult to yield effectual patronage to youth, from the great change which had taken place, in his time, in the habits of young men ; he found them generally now without industry, and prone to expenses.”

The above representation may be considered as a picture of an old British merchant, drawn from life, and points out many of the defects of the present state of trade, both in Great Britain and Ireland. By a careful examination we may perceive in the sketch many things held out to be advantageously followed, and many things to be avoided.

The difficulties arising from the system of commercial warfare are daily increasing.

The customs are considerably lessened, from the almost total stoppage of importations from the continent of Europe, and government in the present perplexing state of their finances, find the deficiency so great, that they appear inclined to grant licences to bring in some articles, on which they may have the duties, although the measure is attended with many disadvantages so long as Bonaparte can keep the continent shut against British manufactures. Those interested in each trade endeavour to throw the difficulties off themselves on others, and in this struggle a remonstrance has been presented to the board of trade by the shipping interest against the licencing of foreign vessels. The petitioners represent the necessity of excluding all importations into Britain by foreign ships so long as the restrictions on exports is continued under the influence of the French system. It is expected that a duty will be laid on timber from the North of Europe, in the present session to encourage importations of this article from British America.

A serious rupture with the United States of America may now be expected: at least an interruption of commercial relations, if acts of more direct hostility do not ensue. Congress have passed a supplementary act, and are strictly enforcing their laws against British and Irish trade. By the operation of these acts, the effects are non-intercourse as far as respects British and Irish shipping, and non-importation in their own.

Rumours are in circulation, that the British government have in contemplation by a fresh order in council, to prohibit importation into these countries in American vessels, and thus make the system of non-intercourse complete. They would then shut up the small opening for trade left us by America, in permitting their exports to come to us in their own vessels, and we shall have by a conjoint operation of the two governments a complete non-intercourse system. Such a measure will prevent us from receiving the articles we stand in need of, many of which may be considered as prime materials in our manufactures. The Americans can do better without our manufactures, as their home manufactures especially of linens, cottons, and woollens have of late considerably increased, while a non-importation system will act as a protection to them, till they find they can completely do without ours.

If the British ships of war capture American vessels going into French ports, as by the act of Congress the Americans are permitted to trade with France, since the Berlin and Milan decrees, as far as regards them, are repealed, direct war with the United States, appears inevitable. We shall then have one more blunder added to the many already existing, and national advantage will be once more sacrificed to national pride, and an unwillingness to make just concessions.

A Liverpool correspondent gives the following statement:

"Since the date of our last circular, no occurrence has taken place, to alter our prospects, either with regard to the prices, or the demand; consequently, the fluctuations, in most kinds of American produce, have been very few, and of trifling extent. Our cotton market, though it occasionally experiences a little revival, continues, upon the whole, in a dull state, with but little alteration in the prices. Since the commencement of this year, the imports have been large, compared with the extent of the consumptive demand; which, as may be naturally expected, is now much abridged, and while our foreign relations are so unhappily circumstanced, we cannot look for any great or permanent improvement in the trade of the spinner, and manufacturer.—Pot ashes, of prime quality, are scarcely to be procured in this market, and when a few barrels, perfectly sound, can be selected, they cannot be purchased under 49s. a 44s. per cwt. The inferior sorts are plentiful, and go off at prices proportioned to their various qualities.

"A sale of Barilla was lately attempted by auction, but the demand is so completely suspended, that no purchaser came forward to make an offer of any description, and the prices are, in consequence, altogether nominal.

"The inquiry for almost every species of grain, is so completely suspended, that it is difficult to convey any correct idea of the prices, which could be actually obtained. The export demand to Portugal has greatly subsided, and although the stock of American flour in this market, is confined to two or three parcels; yet, it is almost impossible to effect a sale, on any terms. American and Irish wheat and barley, are all very dull. Oats are rather better, but still in very limited request.

"Timber has continued to meet with a very limited sale; and during the last month, a further reduction was experienced upon all descriptions of pine. Should the additional duty which government intends to impose upon Pine, imported from

the Baltic, take effect upon the 1st of June next, of which there now appears to be little doubt, an advance upon this species of timber is confidently expected."

The cotton trade of this country is in a low state, yet it has the home consumption, although considerably diminished, but in Britain the want of a market on the continent occasions a depression, which from the great reverse is still more severely felt.

As to the linen trade little alteration appears either in the demand for white goods, or in the brown markets.

The supply of flax-seed this year is abundant, and the prices low. Seed from the United States of North America, both of this and last year's importation is in abundance. The want of a supply from Riga and the other ports of the Baltic is compensated by some seed raised in this country last year, and by large importations of English growth.

Another instance of forgery has occurred in this town during last month, on rather a smaller scale. A lax morality appears to prevail with many unacquainted with the necessity of supporting commercial credit in the strictest manner. Forgery is a crime of very injurious tendency in a commercial country. It destroys confidence, and lessens security in all transactions on credit. To intend not to defraud, affords no valid excuse. When the nature of bills and negotiable securities are better understood, it is hoped that more just sentiments will prevail, and this crime become less frequent. The smaller traders have not, till of late, been so much acquainted with transactions in bills. The present extended system of paper multiplies the temptations to improper conduct, and also shows the necessity of greater strictness in avoiding any breach in the rules indispensably necessary to preserve security.

The premium on guineas fell to 7 and 8 per cent. It soon again rose to 10, 12, and 15 per cent. While a disproportion of 27 per cent exists between gold in bullion, and in coin, and since the English have discovered the large quantity that remained in this district, the price here must necessarily continue so high, as to draw away all the disposable guineas in this country. In a short time we may expect that not a guinea will be left here, except the small quantity which people can afford, or are inclined to hoard.

Inconveniences are now suffering in England for want of silver change: the dollars continuing to rise above the depreciation of the paper currency. Unless some measures of redress by the repeal of the bank restriction act, are speedily adopted, to remedy the scarcity of silver, and the almost total disappearance of guineas in general circulation, the effects will force themselves on the consideration even of the inconsiderate. The causes of depreciation lie deep, and are interwoven intimately in our political and commercial system, in the breaking up of the former overgrown trade of Britain, and in the mighty national debt, and increasing expenditure. In the two latter articles, Ireland is fully keeping pace, the expenditure for last year being upwards of 10 millions, and the revenue only about 6½ millions.

Exchange on London is a little higher, than last month, being about 9½ per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From March 20, to April 20.

March 21...Wood Anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*), and Double Daffodil (*Narcissus pseudo-Narcissus*), flowering.

22...Yellow Star of Bethlehem (*Gagea lutea*) flowering.

26...Light Blue Violet (*Viola Canina*), flowering.

27...The Fish called about this country Roach, properly the Rudd, Pennants British Zool. No. 170, *Cyprinus crythrophthalmus* Linnaeus, begin to appear near the surface of the water.

28...Double cupped Andromeda (*Andromeda calyculata*), and Common Lungwort, (*Pulmonaria officinalis*), flowering.

April 9...Wheat Ear (*Sylvia Genanthe*) arrived, and singing.

5...Canadian Medlar (*Meppilne Canadensis*) flowering...Willow Wren (*Sylvia Trochilus*) come and singing.

6...Alpine Wall Cress, (*Arabis Alpina*), flowering.

11...Yellow tipped White Butterfly (*Papilio Cardamines*), appearing...Smaller White Spanish Narcissus (*Narcissus Moschatos*) flowering.

16...Plaintain leaved Crowfoot (*Ranunculus amplexicaulis*)...Italian Squill (*Scilla Ital.*

lica)...Two leaved squill (*Scilla bifolia*) and Glaucous Leaved Kalmia (*Kalmia glauca*), flowering.

19...Vernal Snow flake (*Leucojum Vernum*)...and Marsh Marigold (*Caltha palustris*), flowering.

20...Starch Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus racemosus*), flowering, Smaller House fly (*Musca domestica minor*) appearing.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From the 20th March, to the 20th April.

March 21, 30,.....Fine Days.

April 1,.....Dark day.

2,.....Light rain.

3, 4,.....Fine days.

5,.....Some drops of rain.

6,.....Dark cold day with some sleet and rain.

7,.....Snow fell during the night to two inches deep, on the ground. A fine day.

8,.....Ice on shallow waters half an inch thick, and icicles 1½ inches long. Some hail showers through the day.

9,.....Slight snow showers.

10,.....Some hail showers.

11,.....Fine day, snow still appearing on the mountains.

12,.....Wet day.

13,.....Dark dry day.

14, 16,.....Gentle showers.

17,.....Dark dry day, rain at night.

18,.....Wet.

19,.....Wet evening.

20,.....Showers, and stormy.

The Barometer was on the 20th, as low as 28.9, on the 18th and 19th, 29.1; the rest of the time it was seldom below 30, and on the 28th and 29th of March it was as high as 30.5.

The highest range of the Thermometer in the morning was 46, on the 3d of April it was 53, on the 7th it was 31, on the 8th only 29, it gradually rose to 54 on the 12th, and on the 16th, it was even as high as 55.

The wind has been observed 8 times N.W. 13 S.E. 11 N.E. 10 S.W. 2 S. 2 E. so that the prevalence has been southerly.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR MAY, 1811.

THE moon is on the meridian on the 1st, at ten minutes past seven in the evening, the first of the Lion being above, and about 4 degrees from her to the east of the meridian, and during the night we shall observe her gradual approaches to this star. At 9, she is 56 degrees, 8 minutes from the first of the Virgin, and 35 degrees, 35 minutes from the second of the Twins.

On the 4th she is on the meridian at twenty minutes past nine, having on the east of her the seventh, and to the west of her the second of the Virgin. Above her, and near the meridian on the west, is the second of the Lion, below her to the east of the meridian, the small stars in the Crow, and to the west of it the small stars in the Cup. At three quarters past eleven she passes the seventh of the Virgin, and in the morning she passes the ecliptic in her ascending node, but, for obvious reasons, without an eclipse. At nine she is thirty-three degrees thirty-six minutes from the first of the Lion.

On the 8th is full moon, at twenty one minutes before one in the afternoon, but without an eclipse, as she is upwards of four degrees in her upright north of the ecliptic. She rises under the two first stars of the Balance, but nearest to the 2nd, and is soon followed by the third, as she passes this star at 40 minutes past ten, and about four hours after the seventh. Before midnight, the two first stars of the Scorpion, with Mars below her to the east, and Saturn still farther removed, will distinguish the lower region, between south-east and the meridian. At 9 she is thirty degrees fifty-nine minutes from the first of the Virgin.

On the 11th, she rises nearly at the same time with Saturn, who is now to the west of her: below her, but to the west is the 18th of the Archer.

On the 16th, she rises under the 9th of the Water-bearer, having passed this star at fifty minutes before one. Above her, therefore we shall distinguish the first of the Water-bearer, with the four small stars in triangle of the Water-pot.

On the 25th, the Moon is seen in the west, under the two first stars of the Twins, but at a considerable distance from them.

On the 30th, the 4th, 8th, and 2d, of the Lion are at a considerable distance above her; and on the 31st, she passes the ecliptic in her ascending node in the afternoon, near to the second of the Virgin, and when the stars appear we shall perceive her to the east of that star. For obvious reasons there is not an eclipse on this day.

This is not a favourable month for the planets, through our evening walks during the former part, will be embellished by the beautiful appearance of Jupiter and Mercury near the W.N.W. and in the lower part of the lower region.

Mercury is an evening star during the whole of the month; but, as his inferior conjunction is on the first of June, he will be too near the Sun during the latter part of this month to be perceived by any but the very keen astronomer. His greatest elongation is on the 8th, and he is stationary on the 20th; his latitude is north, and he is in a favourable sign, of course, so many things conspiring to render him visible in the first part of the month, and Jupiter being at so small a distance from him; and if it is fine weather, so many temptations offering to take the pleasures of a setting sun, it is presumed that few will lose an opportunity; which will not speedily return. On the 1st, Mercury is between the Pleiades and Aldebaran; the Moon passes Mercury on the 23d.

Venus is a morning star, but, though at a considerable distance from the sun, it does not appear in favourable circumstances. On the 1st, she is at the entrance of the first sign, and with a southern latitude, so that her greatest altitude at sun-rise is only about ten degrees, and her duration above the horizon before that time is scarcely an hour. The moon passes her on the 19th.

Mars is on the meridian at two in the morning of the 1st, and at seven minutes before midnight on the 25th. His motion is retrograde through nine degrees, directing his course to the fourth star of the Scorpion, the smaller star under the second, which he does not however reach this month. The moon passes him on the 9th.

Jupiter is an evening star, but the sun advances so fast upon him, that he will excite our attention only in the first part of the month. His motion is direct through seven degrees. He steers his course from the Hyades in the space between the Bull's horns; but the space he moves through in the first week, is not a fifth of that described by Mercury in the same time; and the difference in the motions cannot fail of attracting our notice. The moon passes him on the 23d.

Saturn is on the meridian at a quarter past three in the morning on the 1st, and at two on the 19th. His motion is retrograde through a degree and three quarters, in the barren space between two the branches of the milky way, where he has so long been fixed, but he does reach the middle point between them. The moon passes him on the 11th.

Herschell is on the meridian at half an hour before one in the morning on the 1st, and at five minutes past eleven at night on the 21st. His motion is retrograde through a degree and a quarter, and he approaches the two thirteenth of the Balance, which continue to be an excellent guide to the planet, as he is at so little distance from them to the east. The Moon passes him on the 8th. The Sun's apparent diameter on the 1st is thirty-one minutes, forty-seven seconds. The Moon's apparent diameter on the 1st, is twenty-nine minutes, thirty-eight seconds, and it increases to the 16th, being then thirty-two minutes, twenty-four seconds: it then decreases to the 29th, when it is 29 minutes, 38 seconds; and at midnight of the 31st, it is 29 minutes, 54 seconds.—(*Extracted from Friend's Evening Amusements.*)

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

An elegy signed M. M. is too incorrect to meet the public view.

ERRATA...P. 245, 2 col. 4 lines from bottom, for vigorously read rigorously. page 187, 2 col. 4th line, for obscuration, read obscuracion....Owing to an error in making references in the *Political Retrospect*, in the note at the bottom of the 2d column of page 330, for 336, read 343....after page 329, the next page is wrong numbered, for 130, read 330.

THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 34.]

MAY, 31, 1811.

[Vol. 6.]

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

A SOCIETY has lately been established in Liverpool for bettering the condition and encreasing the comforts of the poor. The following report of a committee previous to the institution being established, develops some good observations on the best modes of assisting the poor, and points out some useful axioms in that branch of political economy, which is connected with the proper management of the poorer classes of society. The rules of the society are also subjoined, and also the first report of the society. The latter is enriched with some just remarks on that difficult science of relieving the poor with the least injury to themselves. In all plans for their assistance, the administering of present relief should be connected with a view to the amelioration of those vices, which too frequently accompany poverty.

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED IN APRIL, 1809, TO CONSIDER UPON THE BEST MODE OF ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT SOCIETY FOR BETTERING THE CONDITION AND INCREASING THE COMFORTS OF THE POOR.

* YOUR committee, after having paid the best attention in their power to the objects for which they were appointed, have prepared the rules which accompany this report, as the basis of a society for bettering the condition and increasing the comforts of the poor in the town and neighbourhood* of Liverpool.

* By the neighbourhood, it is meant to include all persons residing within three miles of the town of Liverpool."

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXIV.

" The inquiries which they have found it necessary to make, in order to form those rules, upon a foundation best calculated to attain the desired object, having placed within their immediate view many different plans which have been put in practice in several populous towns in the united kingdom, for the improvement of the condition of the poor, they take this opportunity of making a few remarks upon the good which may be expected gradually to arise from an institution of the proposed nature.

" And, in the first place, such a society will contribute to increase that mutual good-will and connexion which ought ever to subsist between the rich and the poor; it will draw closer those natural bonds of union which local circumstances may have already formed, and, while it serves to remind the highest of their duty, it will conduce to render the lowest satisfied with their condition.

" The sums of money annually expended in this country under the name of charity are almost beyond calculation. But how much of this becomes the reward of imposture; how much, with the best intention of doing good, is misapplied to the purposes of evil; how often does that pecuniary bounty, which was *meant* to wipe away the tears of distress, and to solace the miseries of indigence, fail in its object; and, instead of being productive of benefit to those very persons whom it was kindly intended to relieve, how often does it operate to their prejudice by furnishing them with the means of encouraging their propensities to idleness and vice; and by rendering

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them less frugal; less industrious, and less capable of maintaining their families by the exertions of honest industry. One great cause of the growing evil is obvious; the generality of persons are willing to give their money, but they will not give their time to the poor. It must therefore necessarily follow, that in such charity there can be little inquiry, and still less discrimination; and there cannot be a truer maxim than this, that it is not *what* is given, but the right application of it, which constitutes its real value. Here then a society of the proposed nature will prove itself particularly useful. It will convert benevolence to better purposes; it will direct it into better channels; it will teach that the true and legitimate object of charity is moral amendment; it will urge the necessity of regular habits, of prudent economy and of improvement of character; it will hold out the most powerful motives to exertion; it will direct its efforts to eradicate the seeds of evil, and advance the practice of virtue; and, whilst it endeavours to operate on the lower classes by individual encouragement, by the prospect of honestly acquiring property, and by every other incitement to industry and prudence, it will also point out to the rich the paths of active and useful beneficence.

"It is not necessary that your committee should enumerate the various objects which may ultimately be attained by an association like the present; they will gradually be developed with the progression of the plan. Your committee will, however, trespass a little longer upon your time, while they state what they would recommend for immediate adoption: and the grand basis of the plan, they conceive, should be inquiry and investigation. It appears to them essentially necessary to be-

come acquainted with the situation and character of the resident poor in the town and neighbourhood, before any very extended good can be expected to arise from the proposed institution. However difficult, and almost impossible, the accomplishment of this may at first view appear, your committee entertain not a doubt that the investigation, if properly conducted, will not only be practicable, but easy of attainment.

"By a skilful division of labour, by a selection of respectable individuals from that class of society, who, without being liable either to impose or be imposed upon, have the best means of acquiring a competent knowledge of the poorer classes, and by assigning to each such a portion as will not interfere with his own personal pursuits, your committee are confident that the desired end may, in a great measure, be obtained; and in this confidence the experience of the past fully justifies them. This knowledge, when once acquired, may be easily preserved; and the result of such a continued inquiry will point out the best remedy for those evils so justly complained of in the loose and indiscriminate charity of individuals. The progress of imposture will be checked; the distresses of the industrious poor will be pointed out and relieved; and idleness and vice will be detected and discouraged.

"The second object which your committee would recommend for immediate adoption is also one of the greatest importance. It is an undeniable truth, and it should never be forgotten as a maxim, 'that one shilling which the poor man earns does him more real service than two which are given him.' Upon this principle your committee would strongly urge the benefits which

would arise from the establishment of a general friendly society. * Under the trusteeship of the projected institution, and founded on correct principles of calculation. No measure could be devised more politic in its object, more practicable in its execution, or more permanent in its effects. By thus supplying the poor man with the means of making a prospective provision for himself and his family, you improve his character, you ameliorate his condition, and you preserve his independence. The great objection of the friendly societies already established is their insecurity. They are founded on incorrect calculations: with a view of encouraging subscriptions, they hold out the prospect of larger allowances in sickness than the contributions will justify; and the inevitable consequences is, their ultimate dissolution, and often their speedy bankruptcy. It has also not unfrequently happened that the treasurers have been false to their trust; and the sums of money spent at their club-meetings tend considerably to diminish the funds. With such disadvantages it cannot be a matter of surprise if the industrious poor man, who labours hard to save sufficient to pay his contribution, should be unwilling to trust his little all to a tenure so precarious; and the obvious benefits of a society, which, from the very nature of its constitution, precludes the possibility of internal discord, which dispenses its

* "It would perhaps be more desirable to establish separate societies for males and females, as there are many instances in which the modes and seasons of relief will not apply equally to both. It is not, however, thought necessary, in the present report, to enter into the minutiae of the proposed measures: it was intended merely to elucidate general principles; the application of them must be left to the future committee who may be appointed to carry them into effect."

allowances with strict impartiality, and facilitates the means of obtaining them; which, in short, offers such permanent security for the advantages it holds out, require no further illustration.

"The third measure which your committee would at present recommend is the building of two public kitchens, one in the northern, and the other in the southern part of the town. For (not to mention the additional expense, which is by no means trifling,) the great delay and inconvenience which have resulted upon former occasions, from the want of them, sufficiently prove the necessity of this measure; and though it is to be hoped that they will not be soon called for, yet in a town so extensive and so populous as Liverpool they never can be useless. The fluctuations of employment are at some periods great; during the long continuance of a hard frost many descriptions of the poor are thrown out of work; and in such cases the loss of time in necessary preparations entirely takes away from the value of relief, and the evil has reached its height before the remedy can be applied. Your committee would also recommend that a public shop should be attached to each of these, where the common necessities of life, such as flour, potatoes, coals, &c. should be sold to the poor for ready money only. Let it not be understood that they mean to recommend the articles being sold at a price below their value, nor even at prime cost. That would be a dereliction of the very principles upon which the society should, in their opinion, be founded. It has been ascertained as a fact, from actual investigation, that the poor pay an advanced price for the common necessities of life, at the rate of 25 per cent. beyond what the rich do; and, in addition to this, there is every

reason to suppose that they are also considerable losers in weight. The establishment of shops, therefore, where the poor might be supplied with these articles in small quantities at the same proportionate price which is given for large ones, cannot but be productive of great and lasting good. Your committee will illustrate their argument by an example. Canal coals, for instance, may be purchased by the load, at fifteen shillings per ton, or ninepence for the hundred: the poor man, who can only purchase them from week to week, as he receives his wages, can in no case procure them for less than one shilling the hundred, besides the loss in weight. This is undoubtedly a great hardship, and an adequate remedy would be productive of a twofold benefit; 1st, it would be a saving to the poor of *one fourth* of their wages, thus enabling them by their own industry to procure additional comforts for their families, and to lay by a small sum against the day of necessity. In the 2d place, it would improve their habits by requiring immediate payment. The facility with which the poor are enabled to contract debts is one very frequent cause of their ruin, and the instances were numberless during the last winter, in which they were prevented from participating in the general bounty, by a threat from their creditors of legal proceedings in the court of requests, whenever they ceased making their usual purchases, or were known to provide themselves with the articles furnished by the committee at reduced prices. Thus are they prevented from reaping the full enjoyment of their earnings, and labour loses its reward. An objection has been raised against the establishment of public shops, upon the ground of the injury which might result to the petty shop-keep-

ers who maintain themselves by the sale of the necessaries of life in small quantities to the poor. But this objection ought not to have any great weight; for it often happens that the credit given to the poor is the cause of failure to the tradesman. Allowing it, however, to be well-founded, yet surely there can be no hesitation in adopting a plan productive of such essential comforts and advantages to the many, whilst the few who suffer are small indeed in the balance. Besides the principle itself is erroneous! for if once admitted, there is no improvement which it would not be the means of obstructing. When, in addition to this, it is considered that these shopkeepers charge enormous profits, that they furnish very inferior articles, and that there is a great deficiency in the weight, the objection must, by every reflecting mind, be dismissed as totally invalid.*

"These, then, form the leading objects which your committee would recommend for adoption upon the first formation of a society for bettering the condition and increasing the comforts of the poor. Others of equal importance will, in the course of time, unfold themselves. But it is above all things necessary to caution the public, both rich and poor, from expecting too great and rapid a progress. The seed must be a long time buried in the ground, before we can look for a plentiful harvest. True benevolence must be guided by the hand of experience before its benefits can be extensively felt. Its current is like the quiet and placid stream, which spreads fertility through the surrounding country, in its slow and silent course.

* * For a more extended and complete answer to this objection which has been urged against the establishment of public shops, see reports of the London society for bettering the condition of the poor.

If, however, in a work which is interesting to all, only part of the object be attained, it will be labour well applied; and your committee cannot close their report, without expressing their hopes that the proposed society may meet with that support of which, from a conviction of its usefulness, they think it so well deserving; and that long after its projectors have slept in peace, it may still survive and flourish, dispensing its blessings, encouraging the growth of every virtue, and promoting the happiness of mankind.

JAMES GERARD,
PUDSEY DAWSON,
JONA. BROOKS,
J. BOSTOCK,
J. BRANCKER."

LAWS OF THE INSTITUTION.

I. THAT the general object of the society be to collect information respecting the circumstances of the poor, and to put in practice the most effectual means of ameliorating their condition. And as it has been found impossible, notwithstanding the large sums bestowed, to relieve all the distress that occurs in this large town, it appears desirable that particular attention should be paid to every reasonable plan of economy, so as to extend the benefits of charitable institutions to as great a number as possible. That the society ever keep in view the principle that the best relief the poor can receive is that which comes from themselves; and that the most effectual method of improving their condition is by the encouragement of industry and prudence.

II. That the business of the society shall be transacted by a committee of twenty-one members.

III. That every person subscribing ten guineas or upwards at one time, or one guinea or upwards an-

nually, be eligible as a member of the committee, and be entitled to one copy of all the publications of the society.

IV. That the committee be chosen by the subscribers at their first general meeting, and that they continue to act until the 4th of December, 1812, when seven of the number shall go out by lot, and the committee shall recommend the names of fourteen gentlemen to the annual meeting for the choice of the subscribers, (such recommendation, however, not to be binding;) the following year, seven of the former members shall go out, and seven new committee-men be chosen in like manner; and afterwards the remaining seven of the committee shall go out by rotation, after having served three years; such service, however, shall not render any person ineligible for the succeeding year, if the subscribers should think proper to re-elect him.

V. That a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer, and secretary, shall be appointed annually by and out of the committee.

VI. That the ordinary meetings of the committee be held on the last Friday in every month, at eleven o'clock precisely, or on such day and hour as the committee may adjourn to.

VII. That the secretary (with the consent of the president) may call a special meeting, giving one day's notice; but that no business shall be transacted at such committee, excepting that which shall have been notified in the summons.

VIII. That the attendance of five members at least be necessary to form a committee.

IX. That any member being absent for three successive monthly meetings, without assigning any satisfactory reason, shall vacate his seat.

X. That all vacancies in the com-

mittee be filled up by ballot at monthly meetings only, a week's previous notice having been given to each member of the committee, and the person so elected shall be considered as the substitute of the person whose place he fills in the committee.

XI. That all questions be decided by a majority of votes, the chairman having also the casting vote.

XII. That this committee be empowered to correspond with any other society having a similar object in view, to purchase any books which are calculated to give them information on the subject, and to print any plan or report which they may think deserving of public attention.

XIII. That the committee be also empowered to offer such rewards for good conduct as the state of the funds will admit, so as to awaken the attention of the poor to what will promote their best interests; that they appoint such officers with salaries as they may think necessary, and apply the funds of the society in such a manner as shall seem to them most conducive to the public good.

XIV. That all drafts or orders for payment on account of the society, be made by order of the committee and entered on the minutes of the day; and that they be signed by three of the members present, and countersigned by the chairman or secretary.

XV. That a select committee be appointed every month, consisting of three members, (two of whom may act,) who shall meet once a week for the better dispatch of the regular business of the society, and shall report their proceedings to the general committee; but no orders of this committee shall be binding beyond the month, unless confirmed by the general committee.

XVI. That sub-committees be ap-

pointed (consisting of two or more members) for such purposes, and with such powers as the committee may think fit to delegate to them.

XVII. That the mayor and acting magistrates, the rectors, churchwardens of the parish, and principal overseer of the poor, be considered as honorary members of the committee.

XVIII. That a general meeting of the subscribers shall be held on the first Monday in December in every year, to inspect the accounts, and transact the general business of the society.

XIX. That a report of the state of the society be published every year, as soon as convenient after the general meeting.

XX. That no repeal of any fundamental law shall take place, except at the annual meeting of the subscribers, one week's previous notice having been given to each member of an intention to propose such repeal.

XXI. That no person shall be considered as a member of the society whose subscription is more than six months in arrears.

XXII. That when any money shall be placed out at interest, the stock shall be purchased and the security taken in the name of the trustees for the time being; and that when any purchase of land or buildings or any other property shall be made, such property shall be conveyed to the said trustees in trust for the society; and the trustees shall, from time to time, when requested by the committee, execute powers of attorney for receiving the dividends and interest as the same shall become due half yearly; and for receiving or recovering the principal money, or any part thereof, to such person or persons only as the committee for the time being shall by writing under the hand of

their chairman direct: and also shall execute any conveyance of such land or buildings or other property as the committee may direct. But the trustees, respectively, shall not be answerable nor accountable for involuntary losses, nor one for the other, nor for the acts or defaults of each other, but each person for himself alone.

XXIII. That it shall at any time be in the power of the committee for the time being to remove any trustee who shall neglect or refuse to perform the duties prescribed by the foregoing rule.

XXIV. That when any vacancy occurs by removal, resignation, or death, the committee shall, within the space of three months from such vacancy, proceed to the appointment of a new trustee, selected from among their own number.

REPORT OF THE SOCIETY.

Your committee, since their appointment, have been employed in making the preparations necessary for reducing to practice the measures recommended in the printed report of the select committee, and in facilitating the attainment of the other objects of the society; and they now present you with the following report of their progress.

In order to obtain that KNOWLEDGE OF THE STATE OF THE POOR which seems so necessary to the future prosperity of the society, they have divided the town into TEN districts, over each of which two members of the committee have been appointed as superintendants; under their direction, it is intended to select a number of visitors in proportion to the population of the several districts, to whom this part of the business of the society will more immediately be entrusted, and from whose information the condition, employment,

habits of life, and general character of the labouring poor may be accurately known. This investigation is for the present deferred, because if it had been instituted at this season of the year, expectations of pecuniary relief might have been raised in the minds of the poor, which must have been disappointed: early in the spring it is the intention of the committee to commence this important inquiry upon a regular system, and to perpetuate the information so obtained by half yearly or quarterly reports from the visitors of each division.

The second object of the society was the establishment of a FRIENDLY SOCIETY, upon such a basis and under such regulations as to prevent the abuses and correct the errors and miscalculations which have proved ruinous to so many institutions of this kind.

To this the committee have not been inattentive; a set of rules have been drawn up and submitted to the inspection of Mr. Morgan, secretary to the equitable assurance office in London, which have been returned by him with a letter expressing his entire approbation of them, and generously refusing to accept of any remuneration for his services. It now only remains to take the most proper measures for encouraging the poor to become members, and to this object the committee will turn their immediate attention.

To give effect, as early as possible, to the third measure so earnestly recommended, your committee have to report, that they have purchased two lots of ground, one in Bridgewater-street, the other in Marlborough-street, near Marybone, for the purpose of erecting thereon two PUBLIC KITCHENS, with SHOPS contiguous to them; the plans for these premises have been submitted to the inspection of the committee, and

approved by them ; considerable progress has been made in the erection of one of the buildings, and preparations are making for the immediate erection of the other.

Your committee have now informed you of the progress which they have made in the prosecution of the several plans first recommended to your attention. Before they close this, their first yearly report, they would state to you what objects may as they conceive, be reasonably held in view in that investigation of the circumstances of the poor of which they have spoken in the first page, and which was amongst the plans recommended to the society, in the report to the select committee in December, 1809. They have wished to define these objects as accurately as possible to themselves, and they are especially anxious that no misunderstanding should invade the public mind on this subject. Perhaps, they may best introduce the exposition of those objects by a statement of the questions with which they purpose to furnish their visitors.

1st, What is your name and age ?

2d, Are you married or single, a widow or widower ?

3d, What number of children have you, and what is the age of the eldest and youngest ?

4th What employment do you follow ?

5th, What are your weekly earnings ?

6th, With whom do you work ?

7th, Do you and your family attend any place of public worship, when, and what ?

8th, Do your children attend any school, how often, and what school ?

9th, Have your children had the small pox, or cow pox ?

10th, Is your habitation comfortable, clean, and healthy ?

11th, Is there any infectious dis-

order in your house, or near it, and what ? small pox, measles, or fever ?

12th, Are you in want of relief, and why ?

13th, Do you receive relief from your parish, or from any charitable institution, and what ?

14th, Where were you born, where been in service, or worked as a labourer ?

15th, How long have you resided in Liverpool ?

16th, Who is your landlord, and how long have you lived in this house ?

17th, Do you belong to any benefit society, and what do you receive ?

One object which the committee have in view, in pressing some of the above stated questions, is, that preparation may be made for a judicious distribution of relief, in the event of the recurrence of such a season as the winter of 1808-9. On that occasion, many of the visitors were much embarrassed in their operations from want of a satisfactory knowledge (a knowledge not, on that emergency, to be obtained) of the characters and circumstances of many of those who applied for assistance. But it is not merely to a season of *unusual* distress, that your committee look. They have it constantly impressed upon their minds that the great object of your association is to produce a *permanent* improvement in the state of the poor ; and it is obvious that many of their questions have a contemplation distinct from that of the mere lessening of *temporary* suffering.

They conceive that by making themselves largely acquainted with the state of the poorer classes they may best ascertain to themselves in what directions their efforts may be most happily made. It is possible that, in the result of their in-

vention, modes of misery may be brought to light of the *existence* of which they have now no knowledge; and that some evils which are known to exist may be shown to have attained a *magnitude* of which they have, at present, no conception. In such cases, it will be a part of their duty to consider, whether the evils disclosed are such as it may lie within their power to remove or lessen.

They wish it distinctly to be understood, that it does not form a part of their purpose to give *pecuniary* assistance.* It is possible, however,

* It is proper, however, to remark that three plans have been under the consideration of the committee, (although not as yet determined upon,) the prosecution of which would imply the imparting of *money* to the poor: *First*, a plan of distributing pecuniary rewards to such persons as should have brought up a certain number of children without aid from the parish; *Secondly*, a plan of establishing a bank for the reception of small sums from the poor, the committee engaging to pay *interest* for the sums so deposited; and, *Thirdly*, a plan of *lending* small sums (say £2, or £3.) to poor persons, to be re-paid by instalments, a respectable housekeeper being guarantee for the re-payment of a part.—On the last plan they would remark, that besides possessing, in common with the *second*, the advantage of habituating the poor to *lay by* a part of their earnings, it carries with it the following recommendations:—1st, That the security given by the housekeeper is in itself as good an attestation as can be desired to the *character* of the person soliciting assistance; and, 2dly, That the plan would, in many instances, happily co-operate with the shop-institution, spoken of in page 351, inasmuch as it may be presumed, (and the experience of the visitors of 1808-9 confirms the idea,) that many persons who might be *disposed* to adopt the plan of buying for ready money at a low price would be *prevented* from adopting it, by the debts under which they might lie to shop-keepers. A small sum by way of *loan*, to be re-paid by easy instalments, would release them from the incumbrance, and would give an auspicious elasticity to their future industrious efforts.

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that their investigation may disclose many evils, towards the removal of which they may be instrumental without the giving of money to the sufferers. Should it appear, for instance, that many of the children of the poor are without the blessings of education, your committee may fairly exert themselves towards the obtaining of those advantages for them. Should it appear that, spite of the facilities afforded for the cow-pox inoculation, there are many poor families who hesitate to adopt it, your committee may then fairly consider, whether there be any *uncoercive* means by which they may become instrumental (under providence) in propagating a practice which promises so well for the happiness of mankind. Should it be found (and your committee apprehend that, with respect to females especially, it would be found) that there are many persons, who, however *well disposed* to be industrious, cannot obtain employment, it may then become a just matter of consideration with your committee, whether some new modes of employment may not be devised, by which such persons may be enabled to earn their bread. Your committee have reason to believe that there are in this town many poor and industrious persons from distant parishes to whom a little parochial relief would be important, who are prevented from applying to this parish by a fear of being sent home; and from applying to their own parishes by fear, or hopelessness, or an ignorance of the just mode of proceeding. To such persons your committee conceive that they may be useful, by making application to their parishes (the merits of the cases having been previously ascertained) for a stipend to be remitted to the persons in question, so that these persons may have the benefit

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of parochial aid, without being compelled to leave a place in which their industry may be exerted to the greatest advantage.

Your committee think also that, by collecting accounts of the characters and circumstances of the poor, they may render the society's office a just receptacle of information for those who wish to obtain honest and industrious labourers or servants. Should this object of their hope be realized, it may then become a matter of desire among the poorer classes to have a well established character on the society's books.

Your committee have now stated some of the modes in which they conceive they may be useful in consequence of the information which may be drawn forth by their questions. It is evident that some few of their questions have purely a statistical tendency, i. e. they look to the ascertaining of the *general history* (viz. the birth places, &c.) of the poor of this town. Such questions they have thought it fit to insert in their catalogue. They assist in giving *completeness* to the view which they are taking of the poor of Liverpool; and this completeness of view may be necessary to enable them to reason justly concerning the probable effect of institutions which have the welfare of the poor for their object.

They hope they may not be charged with *aiming at too much*. They are, indeed, proceeding with caution, *feeling their way*. They wish their objects to be as definite as possible. Even then they are not confident as to their power of accomplishing them; but if they accomplish a part only, they will do better than those who sit still and make no effort because they cannot achieve all. The only danger is, according to their apprehension, that many who belong not to your association, and e-

ven the more inactive members of the association itself, may satisfy themselves that the *agents of the society* are to do every thing, and, therefore, that *they*, in their respective stations, are released from all obligation to charitable effort. Alas! your committee can hope to remove but a *portion* of the evil existing in this town. Whilst they shall be exerting themselves even with their utmost energy, there will be ample scope for the benevolent activity of individuals. The efforts of one are not meant to supercede those of the other. They may go on most happily in unison.

Fully aware, therefore, of the difficulty of the duty they are engaged in, even under the most favourable circumstances, and contemplating, with no little apprehension, the limited state of their funds, and the very few names that have been added to the list of subscribers since the first general meeting, they dare not indulge any high expectations themselves, nor mislead the promoters of the objects of this institution by false hopes of that success which must ultimately depend upon the patronage of the public. The committee have cheerfully devoted their time and labour to the formation of this establishment, and will continue their exertions with increased diligence, if they shall receive that countenance and support which alone can ensure success in the attainment of the various objects of this important institution.

The present deplorable state of the commerce of these kingdoms must be felt and lamented by all. These evils, as they lessen the means, will increase our exertions to support the strength and prosperity of our country, which, whether the whole or its parts be considered, consists in a populace vigorous, virtuous, and enlightened. The labourers are the hands of the

merchant, the implements of the manufacturer and the agriculturist; a source of wealth in peace, and our defence in war. In the hour of danger they keep the enemy from our coast, and "*stand a wall of fire around our loved isle.*"

Such are the public spirit and benevolence of the inhabitants of this town, that appeals to excite the passions have been unnecessary: RELIEF has always met DISTRESS, and they have been as ready to give as to receive.

Some objections have been stated to the organization of the Laws of this Institution, which have much retarded its progress: great pains have been taken to obviate them, particularly as they came from gentlemen highly respectable, and warm friends to the poor. It is hoped they no longer exist, and that if the present members of the Society will lay the state of the funds before their friends, and explain their views, all will unite, with one heart and one soul, in this LABOUR OF LOVE.

Liverpool, February, 1811.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SERAPH; OR VANITY REPROVED.

(Concluded from page 274.)

WHEN her step-mother found fault with her, she never dared to justify herself, or speak a word in reply; this would have been reckoned the height of disobedience; she was therefore obliged to bear all in silence, though often, her heart was ready to burst.

Little Seraph was the first who seemed to sympathize in Harriet's sufferings, and in some degree to resent her injuries.

If she chanced to be seated on her mamma's lap, when the storm began, she immediately left it, and

walking over to her sister, placed herself close beside her, with her face turned towards her mamma; there she stood firm, endeavouring as it should seem, to ward off the fury of the tempest from its object, or at least determined to bear a part of it.

If she saw Harriet much affected, she climbed on her chair, and got her arms round her neck, and if a tear strayed down her sister's cheek, she immediately kissed it off. Sometimes she was ordered away from her sister; then she would, without saying a word, walk with a firm step to that part of the room which was farthest from her mother, and remain there till peace was restored. But never did these two exemplary sisters mention their mother's cruelty, either between themselves, or to any other person, nor utter one disrespectful word of her. It seemed, that without having spoken their thoughts to each other, both had determined to be silent on the disagreeable subject for ever.

Captain Lancaster saw that his wife did not love his daughter, but he had no conception of the misery she suffered in consequence of her step-mother's dislike; and Harriet would have died rather than let him know any thing that might cause him uneasiness.

Time therefore rolled on without bringing any diminution to the sufferings of Harriet; on the contrary, every year increased her step-mother's enmity towards her. The diabolical passion of jealousy produced the most baleful effects in the mind of Mrs. L. she grew passionate, vindictive, and revengeful.

An incident occurred about this time, which though trifling in itself, we cannot pass over in silence, on account of the serious consequences produced by it.

There was in the family an old

servant called Mary Jones, who had lived with the first Mrs. Lancaster, she had ever proved herself faithful and affectionate, and had many times shewed her zeal and attachment for the family, at the hazard of her life. During the illness which terminated in the death of Mrs. Lancaster, she had deprived herself of sleep for weeks together: for no substitute could be found equal to supply her place, in the estimation of her mistress. She had attended Captain L's son with that care and watchful affection, which could only be equalled by a mother, and on every occasion she manifested more judgment and prudence than are usually found in a person of her station. With Mary the present Mrs. Lancaster had never been a favourite: indeed the first time she saw her, she remarked that notwithstanding her beauty, she perceived something that did not please her in her countenance. This speech of Mary's was faithfully repeated to Mrs. L. by her own woman, as was from that time every thing that was said in favour of the former, or against the present Mrs. Lancaster.

Latterly Mary Jones had discovered something of Harriet's ill-treatment, which made her almost frantic with rage and grief, and she could hardly refrain from openly reproaching her mistress.

Matters were in this situation, when one evening as Mrs. Lancaster and Harriet were dressing for a party, the former asked the latter to exchange some jewels with her for that night, as she was fond of variety in these things. Mary Jones who officiated as maid to Harriet, happened to be in the room at the time, adjusting her dress. As soon as Mrs. L. received the ornaments, (which had belonged to Harriet's mother,) she immediately decorated herself with them. Mary turned and cast

a look at her, which too plainly spoke contempt. "I perceive, Mary," said she, "you think I do not become these ornaments so well as their former owner." "I confess, madam," said Mary, "such a thought did cross my mind, as I looked at you." Anger now flashed from the eyes of Mrs. L. but she made no reply, except by reproving Harriet for something that she deemed a fault. Mary did not intend to have said more, but she now felt for Harriet, and was roused. "I never have seen, and too probably never shall see, any person so truly amiable as the former owner of these jewels," continued she, "Miss Harriet indeed comes nearer to her than any one that I know." "At least," said Mrs. L. "it appears she knew not how to treat her servants, or she would have taught you to know your place better, and not to give your tongue so much liberty in the presence of your superiors."

At this accusation Mary's choler knew no bounds;—"not know how to treat her servants," she repeated, "I wish some people knew as well to treat every one; and to conduct themselves on all occasions;" having said this, she rushed out of the room, and slapped the door after her. When she was gone, Mrs. L. complained violently to Harriet of the impertinence, the insults of Mary; in short, the breach between them seemed irreparable, and she ended by declaring, that the same house should no longer contain Mary and herself. Harriet made little reply at this time, and they proceeded to fulfil their engagement.

The next day, Mrs. L.'s wrath was rather increased than abated. Some morning visitors coming to the house, prevented any recurrence to the subject till after dinner. The Captain being gone to take his evening walk, Harriet was ordered to

carry the news of Mary's dismissal to her. "I will not, madam," answered she. "You will not," repeated her astonished step-mother. "No, I cannot, nor will not," replied she again. "'Tis very well, and very obedient, Miss, but if you will not, another person shall," said her mamma, in a passion, rising and ringing the bell; "this woman has been my pest too long, she has turned your heart against me, and may perhaps do me the same kind office with my own child." "O," said Harriet, "I declare, upon my honour, she never in her life spoke a disrespectful word of you in my presence."

Mrs. L. knew Harriet's principles too well to suppose she would have suffered any one to do so, but she wanted a pretext to justify her conduct. A man servant now came to answer the bell—"Tell Mary Jones," said Mrs. Lancaster,—"No, do not tell Mary Jones," said Harriet, scarcely knowing what she said—"I entreat, I implore you, madam, to pardon her." "Leave the room, Miss; go to your chamber instantly," said her enraged mother. Harriet rose to obey, but before she went, willing to make another effort in favour of Mary; she said, "Dear Madam, this is the first time in my life I have disobeyed your commands; I know I am wrong, but revenge not my fault, I beseech you, on poor Mary; at least, speak to my father before you discharge her."—"Do not presume to dictate to me, ma'am; I know too, that you are in the wrong; leave my presence, nor dare to aggravate me further." Harriet now left the room, and little Seraph, who had been a witness to the whole scene, was following her. "Come back, Miss," said her mother, "do not attempt to associate with one who will teach you disobedience." This was the

way most effectually to wound the feelings of Harriet, who had incessantly laboured to instil into Seraph's mind every virtuous principle.

At being prevented from accompanying her sister, Seraph began to scream violently, and her cries heightened the fury of her mother. Anger, like all the other passions, may be checked at its commencement, but if it gain admittance into the heart, what mortal can say to its temper, "thus far shalt thou rage, and no farther." In the storm, Mary Jones was now forgotten; all Mrs. L.'s anger was directed against Harriet, whom she determined to separate for some time from her sister: this being, she well knew, the severest punishment she could inflict on her. She ran therefore in the height of her fury, and locked Harriet in her chamber; and bringing the key in her hand, shewed it to Seraph; for she felt resentment even against her, for wanting to go with her sister. At the sight of the key Seraph's cries redoubled, and her maid was ordered to put her in bed. It was with difficulty she was got past the door of her sister's room; she must stop to say how sorry she was for her confinement, and to lament that she was not allowed to share it with her.

Scarcely had Seraph's screams ceased to echo through the hall and passages, when her father returned. "Where is Harriet, my dear?" said he, as he entered the parlour, where his lady sat in gloomy dignity, "I have been making verses, but what pleases me most is the air I have composed for them, which I want Harriet to play to me." [See the verses at the commencement of the story.] "Mr. Lancaster," answered his wife, haughtily, "your daughter has highly offended me; I have long ceased to expect that she would

obey me, or treat me as a mother, but I have been insulted by her, and my orders to my servants, countermanded to my very face." Captain Lancaster was astonished. "I know, however," continued she, "where the root of the evil lies, and am determined to remove it: Mary Jones has manifested a rooted aversion to me, since my first coming to this house—perhaps her prejudice may have commenced even before that time; step-mothers are ever looked upon with a jaundiced eye: she has instilled her prejudice into the mind of *your* daughter, and may, perhaps endeavour to do the same by *mine*; I am therefore determined to discharge her." "Why, my dear," said the Captain, "you shock me, by your account; there must be some mistake in this, allow me to enquire into the matter. Mary Jones, I am confident, could not behave as you represent." "So, I see how it is," said Mrs. L., my peace of mind is of no value; that of this servant-woman is of much more importance; but I tell you, Captain Lancaster, I can never be happy, while she is in the same house with me, and therefore I insist that she shall leave it." "You know not," said he, mildly, what that woman has done for my family. No, I can never be so ungrateful as to allow her to be turned away." "Ungrateful to a servant!" said his wife with disdain, "has she not been well paid for whatever services she may have rendered you? if she has not, pay her now, give her what money you think sufficient." "There are some services, Mrs. Lancaster," said her husband, "or rather some acts of kindness, which money can neither pay for, nor purchase; such have been those which this woman has rendered my family. Can I ever forget the care, the watchful judicious care, she took of my"—wife

he would have said, but the word stopped in his throat,—and had it been in the power of human aid to have saved my son"—again he stopped, and turning from his lady to the window, seemed to be attentively gazing at the moon; soon after she saw him take out his handkerchief.

A man can sometimes see a woman's tears unmoved; but how hard soever a woman's heart may be, a man's tears never fail to soften it. The moment Mrs. Lancaster observed her husband so touched, her anger began to subside, and her heart to relent. "I am very sorry, my dear," said she, "that I have been the cause of uneasiness to you: I really did not think that you were so foolish with regard to this woman: let us say no more about it to-night, you know I do not wish to hurt your feelings; we will therefore settle this matter to-morrow." Harmony was again restored between the husband and wife; he thought no more of his verses for this night, nor did he enquire again for his daughter, and Mrs. L. by way of shewing her authority, determined to keep her locked up till the morning.

In the morning, Captain Lancaster was awoke by a low scream, accompanied by exclamations of surprise, near the door of his chamber; he jumped out of bed, and hurrying on his dressing gown, went to enquire what was the matter. On opening his door, he beheld all the servants assembled about Seraph, who lay half asleep in the passage at the door of Harriet's room. She had been discovered there a few minutes before, by one of the maids; who being frightened at the sight of her, screamed, so as to draw the rest together. Not knowing what to think of all this, Captain Lancaster began to ask questions, which led to a dis-

covery of Harriet's confinement. Mrs. L. immediately after produced the key, and liberated the prisoner. The two sisters now joyfully rushed into each other's arms. As soon as they descended to the parlour, Seraph seated on her sister's lap, was questioned by her father as to the situation he had found her in. "Well, my dear papa," said the child, "if you will promise not to be angry with me, I will tell you all about it; but I am sure you will not be angry, because I do not know whether I did wrong or not." "I have often told you, my dear," said her father, "that I would never blame you, even should you do an improper action, provided you did not know it to be such. Let me hear now how you came to be asleep at your sister's room-door." "Will papa be so good as to let me tell it just straight on as it happened.—You know, sir, after you went out yesterday-evening, it grew dark and unpleasant, and very gloomy; was it not, papa?" "No indeed, my dear, to me it had a very different appearance; I thought it a sweet, clear, delightful evening, there was a little wind, but not too much." "Well, how strange! I thought it melancholy and disagreeable, and very stormy." "If you felt this way, my dear, it must have been in your mind that what was unpleasant to you existed. I suppose you were in a bad temper." "I will tell you how it was, sir;—after mamma had locked up Harriet, and would not let me go with her"—"Locked up Harriet!" repeated her father. "Yes, papa, it was all about Mary Jones, you know." "Proceed in your narrative, my dear," said he, heaving a sigh. "When Harriet was locked up, I was very sorry, and then mamma ordered me to be put to bed. After I was in bed, I could not sleep, nor could I stop crying for poor Harriet, for I thought

she was like one in a prison, and she herself had told me about the poor prisoners many times. I thought too that it was a cold dull melancholy night, and poor Harriet locked up, you know, papa," (said she, wiping her eyes, for they were growing moist again, at this part of her story,) "I thought I heard her groaning and sobbing, so I could not help crying until nurse came to go to her own bed; then she comforted me, and told me that it was the wind, and not Harriet's sighs I heard; so I lay still, perhaps I slept some then, for the next thing I remember, is that I heard nurse breathe very loud, so I knew that she was sound asleep.

"Then I slipped out of bed, and felt my way to Harriet's room-door; I only just wanted to ask her if she was very unhappy, I thought she might like to have me near her. I listened for a long time at the door, and I still heard her moan." "Allow me, my dear," said Harriet, "to interrupt you for a moment, that I may set you right in this. I neither wept nor sighed, nor was in the least miserable in my confinement, I assure you; for myself I felt nothing; I was only sorry for the uneasiness occasioned to your mamma, and that there should be any disturbance in the family." "Well I did not know that you felt in this manner," said Seraph, "I thought you must pass a dreadful night, so I called to you through the door, and told you that I was there, and all how sorry I was for you. I was not sure whether or not you answered me, sometimes I thought you did"—"I never heard you, my dear," said Harriet, "I must have been asleep." "I do not recollect any thing more, but that I grew cold, and wished myself in bed; I believe I had fallen asleep soon after, but indeed, papa, I did not intend to sleep at the door, I

remember feeling cold several times, and striving to go to bed, but somehow I could not walk." "Sleep had overpowered you, my dear," said her father. He then represented to her the impropriety of leaving her bed unknown to any one; and took occasion to shew her how liable children are to be deceived by trusting to their own feeling; with several instructive lessons, which naturally flowed from her little narrative. Seraph told her story amidst a thousand caresses bestowed on her sister: before it was finished her voice was observed to grow hoarse; she however did not mind it, she was happy, and in high spirits at being once more in the arms of her sister. Towards evening, she complained of her throat, her cheeks seemed flushed, and she became feverish. Her father said he perceived she had caught cold, her mother feared it might be worse, perhaps measles, or, a scarlet fever. She begged to sleep that night with Harriet, and she was too ill to be refused. This child had ever been the darling of all who knew her; never had she been beheld with indifference by any one. The superiority of intellect which one child will often possess over another, is truly astonishing: we sometimes meet with children who seem to have lived double the time in the world of others, who are nevertheless of the same age*. This differ-

* Madame de Genlis gives the following account of her pupil, Mademoiselle D'Orleans, when 4 years old:—"She knew her sister was ill, and no play could divert her mind from the idea. She was playing at a game of forfeits: it fell to her lot in one instance to decide what should be done for the recovery of a pledge, when, without being prompted by any one, she ordered the person to whom it belonged, to pray to God for her sister. The impression such an idea in a child four years old, made on all present, may easily be

ence is partly owing to the nature and partly to the education or culture of the plant; but where both unite, where the best possible culture has been bestowed on the finest plant of its species, it is wonderful how soon the human blossom may be brought to exhibit a degree of perfection.

The next morning Harriet brought the alarming intelligence to her father and mother, that Seraph's disorder seemed to be much increased; that she had passed a very disturbed night, and was now, she feared exceedingly ill. At this information, the anxious parents were greatly alarmed, and a servant was instantly dispatched for a physician.

Consternation and terror now spread through the family; and Mary Jones, unbidden, took her station at the child's bed-side. As soon as the physician had arrived, and examined his patient, he pronounced her disorder to be scarlatina, and he feared a very bad species of it. It was attended with a considerable difficulty of breathing, which every hour increased. The next day it was judged necessary to blister her chest. The doctor's opinion was, that cold and the agitation of the child's mind during the night she had passed out of bed, had caused her indisposition. For three days the fever continued very violent, but the worst symptoms that appeared were a cough and difficulty of breathing. At length the fever began to abate; but it left her in a weak languid state, with a violent cough, and no inclination for food.

conceived. Her sister died. It is difficult to believe that a child four years old could, for the space of two years retain a lively and profound grief for this loss; but that she did so, every one about her can witness."

Lectures of a Governor, by Mad. de Genlis.

Grief and melancholy appeared in every countenance in the house; even the lowest of the domestics partook in the general affliction; so much was this sweet infant beloved.

Harriet scarcely ever left the sick-chamber. But the sufferings of the wretched mother were truly pitiable, in as much as they were mixed with remorse, which is the most dreadful torture of the human mind, for she mentally accused herself of being the cause of the child's sufferings.

During the first days of Seraph's indisposition, Mrs. Lancaster took no notice of Mary Jones, who was her nurse: one day, however, on which the child seemed worse, and lower than usual, when she had remained for a long time weeping over her in an agony of despair, Mary rose from the other side of the bed, where she had been kneeling, and coming to her, took her affectionately by the hand, and said, "My dear mistress, why do you give yourself up to despair? Trust, I beseech you, in a wise providence, who can yet, if he thinks fit, restore this angel to you." "O Mary, dear Mary," said she, leaning her head on Mary's shoulder, and bursting into a fresh flood of tears, "is there any hope for me?" "O yes!" replied Mary, "there is hope, God forbid there was not." Behold how affliction humbles pride, and levels us with those whom we before affected to despise! At this assurance of Mary, Mrs. Lancaster pressed her hand, and felt more composed than she had done for many days.

This lovely infant, as she lay in her little white bed, looked like "something not of this earth's mould," her beautiful curling hair clustered over her snowy forehead; her cheeks, from the internal heat that consumed her, had now assumed the deepest dye of the rose; while

the brilliancy of her eyes shewed a spirit undaunted by all it had suffered, and not to be conquered by the keenest pang of disease. Never did a murmur escape her lips, and when her parents or friends visited her, she uniformly declared herself better, and endeavoured to make the time pass as agreeably in her sick-chamber as possible.

Yet she once during her illness told Mary Jones, that she knew she should die; saying, at the same time, that she liked the thoughts of dying very well, only she was sorry for the grief her mamma would feel. "For as heaven is a place, so much more delightful than this earth," said she, "I wonder any one would wish to stay here."

Harriet in instructing her, had not neglected religion. Her creed was simple.—She believed there was a God, who made the world, that he was wise and good; and that after death he would punish the wicked, and reward the good. This far she could understand, and no farther was required of her: her memory was not burdened by a parcel of, (to a child,) unintelligible words, to which it cannot possibly annex the proper ideas.

One day as her mamma and Harriet stood beside her bed, she made an effort to raise herself, and placing the hand of her sister in that of her mother, looked wistfully at them, and lay down again. Mrs. Lancaster burst into tears, and left the room.

On the 13th day of her illness, she appeared much changed for the worse; she was too weak to speak, and only made signs for what she wanted. Seeing her parents and sister in the room, her nurse raised her up in bed, and she signified that she wished her mother and sister to approach; she then again, in presence of her father, took the hand of Harriet, and

put it in that of her mother's, and cast her eyes to heaven. Mrs. Lancaster wept, but the child did not seem satisfied; she pointed to her mother's breast. At this Mrs. L. said, "I understand you, my dear!" May none of my readers ever experience a pang like that felt by this child-accused mother, as she repeated, "I understand you, my dear!" Then taking Harriet in her arms, she said, "she shall be my daughter!" Seraph smiled her approbation!—was laid down, and raising her eyes and hands to heaven, seemed happy.

It was now the dinner-hour, and Mrs. Lancaster seeing her so composed, suffered herself to be persuaded to go and try to take some refreshment. For some nights she had not been in bed; since the commencement of her child's illness, she had scarcely eaten any thing, and nature was now almost worn out. The sorrowful parents had left the sick-chamber about ten minutes, when they were again summoned to it. The beauteous angel still lay as they had left her, but pale as marble, her little hands and eyes were yet raised to heaven; the smile seemed still to play on her lips, but the spirit that had animated the clay was fled for ever!

Behold now the frantic grief of the wretched mother! see how she *raves* and calls aloud upon her darling, her first-born! What value does she now set upon that beauty of which she was once so vain? Behold her cheek pale and ghastly! her eyes dim and sunk with watching and weeping! her hair dishevelled! that beautiful hair of which she was once so proud! see, she tears it in handfuls from her head; and scatters it about in wild agony!—The heart-stricken father leans silently over the bed of death, no tear, no

groan escapes him; his grief seems too big for the common forms, but he has felt as great, nay a greater load before, and knows he is able to bear it. As soon as the first burst of Mrs. Lancaster's violent affliction had somewhat abated, her husband came to her, and by a kind of affectionate violence, forced her from the chamber of death to her own room: there this miserable couple spent the remainder of that wretched evening. Considering the death of his child as a dispensation of providence, which no human foresight could have prevented, the father submitted in silence: though he bore his griefs like a man, he also felt them like a man. But what was his affliction compared with that of his wife—her heart bleeding with remorse and self-reproach? for she could consider this fatal event in no other light than as an accident of which she herself had been the cause; and felt like the murderer of her child.

Before the death of this child, Captain Lancaster determined that in case such an event should happen, he would take occasion from it to give his wife an impressive lecture; for he wished, if possible, to change the whole subsequent part of her conduct, and give a new bias to her mind. But did he now, in the silence and solitude of their melancholy chamber, attempt this? No, the tender affectionate husband, seeing her already too deeply wounded, felt nothing but pity for her, offered no arguments, save those of consolation, accompanied with kindness and endearment.

In the general grief and consternation of the family, Harriet had been forgotten, the preceding evening, except by Mary Jones, who as soon as it was light the next morning, tapped at her master's room-door, to say, that she was extremely ill, and Mary

feared had caught the scarlet-fever. Now it was that poor Lancaster found himself still vulnerable—found that he had not yet lost all ; but that it was in the power of fate to render him still more wretched. As he jumped out of bed his wife thought she perceived a tear streaming down his cheek ; he turned to the window, and throwing up his eyes, she distinctly heard him utter, “ Spare me, O God of mercy, spare me ! ”

The funeral obsequies were performed for Seraph while the fate of Harriet remained doubtful. Every evening during a week the trembling parent feared that the ensuing morning should behold him childless. At length, however, it pleased providence that her disorder should take a favourable turn, and she began rapidly to recover. The heart of the enraptured father now overflowed with gratitude to heaven ; he no longer murmured over the past, but thanked God for his present blessings. But, ah ! not so the wretched mother, she still felt “ reflection’s stab ”.

The first day that Harriet was able to leave her bed, she was visited by her step-mother, who taking her in her arms, gave her a truly maternal embrace ; tears choaked the utterance of both, but though language was denied, affection spoke in their hearts, and was easily understood. From this time forth, Mrs. Lancaster uniformly behaved to Harriet as if she had been her own child.

Indeed the change which her husband so much wished to see effected in her, was now gradually taking place : affliction made her behold objects in their true light, and estimate the things of this world according to their proper value. So true it is, that half the wisdom cannot be acquired in a life of uniform prosperity, that may

be gained from one shaded by adversity. As the poet says—

Even should misfortunes come,
I here who sit have met with some,
And’s thankful for them yet ;
They give the wit of age to youth,
They make us *ken ourself*’
They let us see the naked truth,
The real good from ill.

Through a remote part of Captain Lancaster’s garden ran a murmuring brook, which was skirted on each side by a thick wood. As soon as Mrs. Lancaster’s grief was somewhat mellowed by time, she a little diverted her mind by giving directions about the embellishment of a spot in this wood, which she intended should be kept sacred to the memory of her departed child. She ordered some trees to be taken away, leaving a clear circular space, in the middle of which she caused an urn of the purest white marble, to be erected : round which was inscribed, in black letters, “ Sacred to the memory of an early victim of affection, Seraphina Lancaster, aged four years and eight months.

This spot, which is carpeted by the softest moss, is entirely circumscribed, and shut in by tall trees, the waving foliage of which, by partly obscuring the light, gives it an awful and gloomy appearance, while the gurgling of the stream, which flows close behind their roots on one side, inspires a still and solemn feeling.

The velvet carpet is embroidered by nature’s hand with bunches of violets and water-lilies. Various wild-flowers cluster about the roots of the old trees, among which evergreens and flowering shrubs, are thickly planted.

The creeping rose, and some scarlet honey-suckles, to which Seraph had been particularly partial, were planted at the base of the urn, and in time twined their branches round it.

To this spot for the remainder of her life, did Mrs. Lancaster retire to the exercise of her devotions; to contemplate, to weep, and to purify her heart.

Three years after the decease of Seraph, Harriet was united to the man of her own and her father's choice; one who proved every way worthy of her.

Mrs. Lancaster brought her husband two boys, but never had another female child. She has spent a great part of the last twenty years of her life in reading and cultivating her mind; of beauty she thinks not, nor has she ever shewed the least symptom of vanity since the death of her beloved daughter. The fond husband declares that she is handsomer than she was when he first saw her; he says goodness speaks in every softened look, and that an enlightened mind now beams in her intelligent countenance. In short, she is now his friend and rational companion; and truly have they both experienced, that those "whom the Lord loveth, he chasteneth."

D. D.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

METHOD OF TREATING BURNS AND SCALDS.

THERE has several times occurred to me, since the receipt of the Belfast Magazine, a thought of detailing an accidental discovery of a method of treating burns and scalds; and lately pursuing something on the subject, in page 171 of the second volume, which did not exactly accord with my ideas, determined me to make the attempt.

About four years ago, I burned a small place on my thumb, which was very troublesome for several hours,

appearing red and likely to blister. I, at length, spread a plaister of burgundy pitch, softened with a little oil, which I had long kept in the house to dress slight wounds, and applied it, merely because I happened to think of it, and soon forgot my burn, and when I again recollected it several hours afterwards, it immediately excited an inquiry for the cause of so speedy and unexpected relief; which, on a little reflection, was solved by the following train of reasoning. The application of fire to the flesh begins the work of dissolution, which gives the feeling of pain, which the active principle in the common air is capable of continuing, and in order to stop its progress, nothing more is necessary than the close application of any convenient substance capable of acting as a non conductor.

The convenience of the application consists in its being easily, and quickly applied; not so hard as to be uneasy to the part, nor yet so soft as to melt away with the heat of the flesh. To answer all these purposes I have adopted the admixture of an ounce of bee's wax, to four ounces of burgundy pitch, and less than a spoonful of sweet oil. Lard or fresh butter is perhaps as good as oil. In this way I have ever since, with uniform success, treated burns or scalds whenever they have happened in my family and neighbourhood. I have found this plaister equally effectual in easing the smart of a blister drawn with the Spanish fly. In every instance, where I have known it used, it immediately eases the smart, and finally heals the part affected. My own happy experience of its efficacy induces me to wish for the sake of suffering infants in particular, as well as others, that this remedy might be brought into general use, but I have hitherto neglected giving it that pub-

city which I am fully assured it merits.

H. B.

Hudson, State of New-York.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE DANGERS OF INTEMPERANCE,
ESPECIALLY TO YOUNG MEN.

ONE use of a periodical publication is, the opportunity it affords to individuals, who are not altogether heedless spectators of passing events, of conveying their ideas on some matters that may, in the course of their observations, become the subjects of their attention; and surely the pages of a periodical print published professedly for the purpose of extending useful knowledge, and advocating the cause of virtue, should ever be open to the free introduction of whatever may have a tendency in endeavouring to point out, how simple soever the manner may be, (and I aim at nothing more) what may be apprehended inimical to the progress of pure morality, as it is on this the welfare of nations, and of individuals so very materially depends. A pure morality (which in my opinion is only another name for true religion. I cannot make a distinction,) embraces every duty we owe to God, to ourselves, and to our fellow-men.

I much fear that many by entertaining loose ideas of the nature of morality, are led into liberties which by degrees may sink into very destructive habits, and eventually tend to their irrecoverable ruin.

Those who are in any degree attentive to the passing events of the age in which we live, will have mournfully to acknowledge the many deficiencies that mark the present order of things from the highest to the lowest, with respect to a sound morality, and which powerfully operate to retard its progress.

Of the many prevailing evils that distinguish the character of the present day, that of the too frequent use of spirituous liquors appears to be one of the foremost and not the least destructive. It seems to have found its way into almost every circle, and too few are sufficiently aware of the danger of encouraging a practice so injurious in its consequences.

Its free introduction upon almost every occasion, as is now very commonly the case, is much to be lamented, and cannot be too earnestly remonstrated against by the friends of good order, who feel interested in all that concerns the welfare of society, and rejoice at any step tending to an advancement from the present corruption of manners. If a few individuals chance to meet, or wish to converse together for any length of time, or have occasion to transact any little business, it is too commonly the practice to introduce the tumbler and glass, as if it was a custom absolutely necessary and could not be dispensed with, and as if the degrees of sociability were more advantageously extended by the practice.

Great caution is necessary, lest what is begun in harmless intention may end in a serious evil. It is dangerous to meddle with the practice. Surely to quicken the pleasures of real sociability, and strengthen the bonds of genuine fellowship, it requires no such stimulus. They can better subsist without it. By falling in with the practice, though but seldom at first indulged, a fondness for the intoxicating draught may be acquired, and a relish for improper company may encourage this fondness, for it generally happens in such cases, an over-scrupulous attention is not paid in the choice of company. Thus led on from one degree to another, a confirmed habit of drunkenness and vice is in many instances the doleful con-

sequence, which many in their beginnings would have looked on with dismay and abhorrence, and be ready to reply to any willing to reason with them on the dangerous consequences of compliances to wrong practices, "What, is thy servant a dog that he should do such a thing?" Such is the deceitful tendency of joining hands in anywise with evil habits; the danger powerfully points out the distrust we should always have of ourselves.

For young men whose prospects in life may lead them to settle in large towns, I have great fears when I contemplate their perilous situations, surrounded with innumerable evils and multitudes ready, on all sides to take every advantage of their youth, innocence, and inexperience, to lead them astray from the simple path of well-doing; and entangle their feet in the snares of vice and folly. Of all the engines employed by the seducers of young and experienced persons, no one seems to be more effectual, or requires more to be dreaded than a habit of drinking. If they can once prevail upon them to be companions in the free indulgence of the cup, the end is in a great degree accomplished. The entrance to other vices is easy of access. It leads to almost every other evil and cannot be too strongly guarded against in its very first appearances. But it requires some degree of strength and resolution to resist the many alluring baits cast in the way; by consenting at the first onset, though perhaps in instances comparatively trifling to what may follow, the way is laid for giving up in further exposures to future attacks, whereas by exercising a little care and resolution at first, how many inconveniences and dreadful consequences might be avoided. Young men cannot be too careful in the choice of the com-

pany they keep. If they are sufficiently attentive in this particular they will find few with whom they can intimately associate, with any degree of safety. How many promising youths have been ruined, and lost to themselves and to usefulness by the habit of keeping evil company. Flee, I entreat you from this destructive share, as from the hand of a most dangerous foe, ye who value your present and future peace. "Evil communications corrupt good manners," is a truth many have found verified in their own sorrowful experience when perhaps too late to remedy the direful consequence. Example has a powerful influence, and many on account of the "world's dread laugh," are afraid of not appearing as others do, or of differing from generally received practices. Hence they mouldge in all the fashionable follies that lie within their reach, and many in the worst dissipation of the times.

In the gratification of these indulgencies, how many precious moments are idly thrown away that might be spent in the application to useful study, and acquiring and exercising that kind of practical knowledge, that would turn out to future good account, and enable us to discern our present real situations as accountable beings, and beings whose lives are as it were but a span.

"Oh! the dark days of vanity, while here
How tasteless; and how terrible when gone.
Gone, they ne'er go, when past they haunt
us still,

The spirit walks of ev'ry day deceas'd,
And smiles an angel, or a fury frowns.
Nor death, nor life delights us. If time
past,

And time possess, both pain us, what can
please

That which the Deity to please ordain'd,
Time us'd. The man who consecrates his
hours

By vig'rous effort, and an honest aim,

At once he draws the sting of life and death,
He walks with nature, and her paths are peace."

Ye who are treading the precarious path of life with inconsiderate steps, and rushing down the rapid stream of time with heedless impetuosity and mad career, pause; suffer yourselves to be arrested in the midst of your wild pursuits and imaginary dreams of pleasure with the important inquiry so beautifully alluded to, by the justly admired and celebrated author already quoted.

"Tis greatly wise to talk with our past hours,
And ask them, what report they bore to heav'n,
And how they might have borne more welcome news."

To converse with the deeds of our past hours and diligently and impartially to inquire how they have been spent, to what purpose have we lived, might be a means of exciting just consideration of the danger of trifling in matters so important, and teach us justly to appreciate the value of a right application of time towards securing the soul-solacing enjoyment of an approving mind, when all considerations of a sublunary nature are near to cease for ever, and prospects of another kind open to our view.

"Beware to-day, 'tis madness to defer."

N. S.

To the Editor of the Belfust Magazine.

SIR,

IT is a melancholy fact, that in the present age, every kind of knowledge is more eagerly cultivated, than religious knowledge, and every ancient book more carefully studied, than that book which contains a revelation of the will of God. It is not unusual to meet with persons who are profi-

cients in the polite accomplishments, and in the ornamental branches of literature, who are yet ignorant of the first principles of religion, and of some of the leading facts contained in the sacred volume. It is really surprizing, independent of its divine inspiration—abstracted from its containing "the words of eternal life," that the variety and curiosity of the matter contained in the Bible, should not attract more attention. For independent of its divine inspiration, it may be safely asserted, that the Bible is the most interesting book in the world.

Considering this, and the numberless and elaborate criticisms which have been written on profane authors, it is somewhat surprizing that the Bible has never been taken up by any one, as a work of taste. The sacred scriptures, viewed in this light, might furnish matter for a most interesting work. The sublimity of Isaiah, the pathos of Job, the various beauties of the book of Psalms, and of different other passages of scripture, might afford a fine field for the observations of the critic. A work of this kind, executed by a man of taste, might be productive of the most beneficial effects. It might draw the attention of the young and the gay to the sacred volume, by which means they might derive spiritual edification, whilst they received entertainment. I should be happy to find this subject taken up by some of your correspondents, capable of doing it justice. In the mean time, I subjoin a few critical observations, and a paraphrase on the twenty-third Psalm, indulging the hope, that even this trifle, this widow's mite, may not be without its use.

The twenty-third Psalm is perhaps the most beautiful poetic composition to be found in any language. It con-

tains a delicacy of sentiment, and a sweetness of expression, which is scarcely to be met with, but in the most refined periods of society. The sentiment which prevails throughout, is that tranquility of mind which a good man enjoys, from a consciousness of the divine protection. This sentiment is finely illustrated by images which excite a correspondent disposition of mind. And it is almost impossible to read this Psalm without feeling a portion of the tranquility which it breathes. The Psalmist writes in the true spirit of the sentiment he describes. The images he introduces tend to soothe and tranquilize the mind. The fancy is transported to the calm scenes of the country, and is presented with the imagery of gentle streams, of a watchful shepherd, and a flock reposing in green pastures. The image of a shepherd and his flock, with which the Psalm opens, is not preserved throughout. But there is nothing introduced inconsistent with it. So that the imagery is quite free from confusion or perplexity.

PARAPHRASE.

Whilst my great shepherd is for ever near,
Say should my soul, or want, or danger
fear?

Where the refreshing streamlets gently
flows

In pastures green, he leads me to repose.

He heals my soul, bids all my sorrows
cease,

And gently guides me in the paths of
peace.

Shielded from harm by God's peculiar
care,

Safe, tho' 'mid foes, the joys of life I
share.

When doom'd to pass through death's dark
dreary vale,

Yet even then, my courage shall not fail,

Since even then, my shepherd shall be nigh,

And with his rod and staff shall aid supply.

Sure whilst on earth I'll still God's good-
ness prove,

And taste hereafter purer joys above.

W. F.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE USE OF STRAMONIUM IN THE
ASTHMA.

IN the last London Monthly Magazine, Dr. Sims gives an account of the first introduction of Stramonium as a remedy for asthma, into England, in addition to the preceding accounts:

Some time in the year 1802, he received a specific for relieving the paroxysms of the asthma, from General Gent, who had procured it from Dr. Anderson, physician-general at Madras. Dr. Anderson had both recommended it, and used it himself. The specific is at Madras prepared from the roots of the wild purple-flowered thorn-apple, (*Datura feror*). The roots had been cut into slips as soon as gathered, dried in the shade, and then beat into fibres resembling coarse hemp. The mode of using it was by smoking it in a pipe at the time of the paroxysm, either by itself, or mixed with tobacco, according as the patients were previously addicted to smoking or not.

Dr. Sims happened at this time to be attending a patient, labouring under phthisis pulmonalis, combined with asthma, as appeared to him from the frequent paroxysms of difficulty of breathing, not usual in pure phthisis, at an early period of the disorder. With a view of alleviating these distressing paroxysms, he recommended a trial of this remedy; the relief obtained was far beyond expectation, and, though gradually sinking under an incurable disease, this lady continued to experience great satisfaction in its use, almost to the fatal termination.

He afterwards recommended this remedy to Mr. Toulmin, surgeon of Hackney, at a time when he was much harassed by frequent paroxysms of the asthma. He re-

ceived so much benefit from its use, that after using all the *Datura feror* he could procure, he was obliged to have recourse to our common thorn-apple, (*Datura stramonium*), of which he had been advised to try the stalks, as the roots of this species are small and fibrous. Mr. Toulmin experienced nearly the same relief from this, as from the East Indian plant. He likewise tried the leaves, but could hardly distinguish these from tobacco, either in taste or effects. It is indeed highly probable that the *Datura feror* and *Datura stramonium* may have nearly similar virtues, but the one may perhaps be more efficacious than the other. Mr. Toulmin has since mentioned that from his extreme dislike to tobacco, which the leaves appeared to resemble in taste, he had not made sufficient trial to ascertain their virtues, but he thinks they certainly afforded him no relief.

More care ought to be taken, (says Dr. Sims,) in the preparation of the *Stramonium* than is usually done. The stalks ought to be cut into slender slips while recent, and dried quickly. In our climate, the general direction of drying in the shade, is injurious to most herbs; the quicker they are dried the more they retain of the taste and colour, and consequently of the virtues of the fresh plant. The whole plant is frequently sold as a remedy for the asthma, but it should be generally known that the leaves and more especially the unripe capsules and seeds of the thorn-apple, are a very powerful, nay even a deleterious narcotic, if taken internally, and probably cannot, in all cases, be even smoked with impunity. The leaves appear, from Mr. Toulmin's account, not to possess the same power of allaying the asthmatic paroxysm, as the comparatively mild and innocent stalks and roots.

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXIV.

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine

AT a time when an inveterate and ever active foe threatens to destroy our admirable little islands; I was peculiarly delighted to receive a book a few days ago from a friend, wherein the great Napier of Mar-chiston mentions a plan of national defence, which if carried into execution to the full extent of which it appears capable, bids fair to rid us of the trouble of both Bonaparte and France. He says, "The invention, proof, and perfect demonstration geometrical, and algebraical, of a burning Mirror, which receiving of dispersed beams of the sun, doth reflect the same beams altogether united, and concurring precisely in one mathematical point, in the which point most necessarily it engendereth fire; with an evident demonstration of their error, who affirm this to be made a parabolic section. The use of this invention serveth for the burning of the enemies ships at whatever appointed distance."—Now sir, either peace must have been made at the time this invention was made public, or the British government must have been swayed by French influence, that's clear, or a plan fraught with such benefit would have been at once adopted. Tiernhauson, and Buffon, have shown what powerful effects a combination of mirrors to the size of 10 feet only produce, what would be the effect then if all the mirrors of Britain were united; a very trifling expense would construct a frame, capable of directing the rays, of all the mirrors of Britain against France, and the only inconvenience which could arise from ordering all the looking-glasses of Great Britain to be brought to Sussex, the most convenient position, would be, that the men would be obliged to go unshave.

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ed, until the mirrors were returned, and surely no female would be so unpatriotic as to look with an unpleasant eye on any man, who were his heard for so great a purpose. Oh! dear sir, by this powerful machine, what a delighted man must Mr. Malthus be! what future happiness to mankind, will not himself and his disciples see in the occasional use of this great machine. Now sir, before it had been made too powerful, I would direct its rays on Paris, that hub of vice; what a glorious sight it would be, to those old gentlemen who in their youth made the tour of Europe, to find that their sons, would no longer be in any danger, from the seductions of the alluring females of that great metropolis: and what a delightful day it will be to the good ladies of England, now that their sons will no longer be in danger of losing their virtue. I would begin in this partial manner, in order that the French might have some time to be frightened, and see the folly of all their grand schemes of conquest, before I would exert the full powers of our heavenly machine. Let the bishops be all assembled, and let a stage be erected for the Duke of York; he especially will delight to see Dunkirk in flames.

Now sir, my improvement upon Napier's plan, is for a great event. England being situated to the north of France, has nothing to fear if Paris is first destroyed, as it is now supposed no danger can arise from the knowing members of the national institute reflecting a portion of the rays falling from our machine back again; poor souls! their bones, by this time, are in a state of vitrification.

When all is completely ready, the prime minister of England, dressed in his robes, (having been first made acquainted with the mode

of directing the machine,) will in presence of all the friends to the present established order of government, for care should be taken to prevent the Prince Regent, Sir F. Burdett, or indeed any such people being present, least their foolish notions of philanthropy might prevent this grand effort of British patriotism. With these precautions, there is little doubt but a few hours of bright sun-shine will for ever prevent any trouble from France; her forests destined for future navies, and her most splendid palaces will soon be transformed into gas, and the whole foundations of the empire with her 25 millions of inhabitants be reduced to perfect scoria.

BREXUS.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

CHARTER OF CARRICKFERGUS.

(Concluded from page 295.)

AND furthermore, of our more ample special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion for us our heirs and successors, do give and grant licence, liberty, and authority unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, that they and their successors may make, evest, have, and enjoy, and be able and of power to make, evest, have, and enjoy one passage, called in English, a ferry, over the river, port, or arm of the sea of the river of Knockfergus aforesaid, that is to say, from the foresaid town of Knockfergus, and from any part of the town aforesaid, or of the county of the aforesaid town; adjacent upon the same flood, river, port, or arm of the sea, unto the lands of the upper Claudeboys, in the county of Down, together with ferry-boats, and all other things

whatsoever requisite, happening or appertaining to such a passage to pass over and transport, and to re-pass and re-export all men, horses, and other things transportable, over the said water, river, port, or arm of the sea of Knockfergus aforesaid, from the land of the upper Clondeboys, or from any other part of the same, to the aforesaid town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and from the said town of Knockfergus, and from any part of the same town, and from the county of the town aforesaid, to the aforesaid land of the upper Clondeboys, and that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors and assigns, from time to time for ever, may take, receive, have, and enjoy so many the like such, and the same freights, rewards, sums of money, and all other profits, commodities, and emoluments whatsoever, for the transporting all men, horses, and other things transportable over the aforesaid passage, (as many the like,) and that with any one having the like passage, doth take, receive, hath, or may hath, or any other having the like passage, receive, have, or enjoy, or what they or any of them, ought to take, receive, have, or enjoy, for transporting of men, horses, cattle, or any other things in the like case, in any other passage within the kingdom of Ireland.

To have, hold, and enjoy the aforesaid passage, freight, rewards, sums of money, and other the premises with their appurtenances, unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors and assigns, to the sole and proper use and behoof of them the mayor, sheriffs, and successors, as from our castle of Dublin, in free and common succage, and not in capite, neither by

succage in capite, nor by knight's service, and we further will, and firmly command to be enjoined, that no other person or persons may appoint, erect, or make, or shall cause to be appointed, erected, or made any other passage over the said water, or river, port, or arm of the sea of Knockfergus aforesaid, which shall be to the annoyance or hindrance to the aforesaid passage, above by these presents formerly granted.

And furthermore, of our more ample grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs, and successors, we give, grant, and confirm unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, the third part of all and singular our customs, as well great as small, to be divided into three parts, and all and several sums of money due and payable unto us, our heirs and successors, for such customs hereafter to be paid for and concerning any wares, merchandize whatsoever, from time to time, brought or carried, or to be brought or carried into our port of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or into any other port, bay, or creek, belonging or adjacent to the said town of Knockfergus, and being betwixt the sound of Fair Furlong, in the county of Antrim, and the Beerlooms in the county of Down, as also for and concerning all wares and merchandizes whatsoever, from time to time, shipped, loaded, or exported of, from, or out of the said port or haven of Knockfergus, or of, from, or out of any other haven, creek, or bay, or any other place within the sound of Fair Furlongs and Beerlooms aforesaid, or from any of them, always excepting out of this our grant and reserving unto us, our heirs and successors, the other two parts of the customs aforesaid,

and of the sums of money due and payable, or from thence forth due, to be unto us, our heirs and successors, by reason of the said customs.

And we further will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do grant and confirm unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and to their successors, that it may not be lawful for any person or persons to enter or go aboard any ship, barque, or boat, coming to the town aforesaid, or the haven of the same, to buy or forestall any merchandize, without the special licence of the mayor of the said town for the time being, upon pain of forfeiture of £10, lawful money of England, to the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors for ever, as often as they shall offend in manner aforesaid, and we further will, that no man shall be attached or arrested, or cause to attach or arrest any man being in any houses of the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, or of a freeman's of the same town, unless it be for some treason or felony, so long as he be or shall remain in the same house, and that no inhabitant of the aforesaid town, nor any other person or persons, shall salt, or cause to be salted; neither or any of them, hides or other merchandize, within the town or county of the town aforesaid, unless he be free in the town aforesaid.

Neither yet shall any person or persons salt or compound any herrings, or any other kind of fish, to be sold to any other person or persons without the licence of the mayor of the town aforesaid for the time being, first obtained upon pain of forfeiture of the said hides, merchandize, herrings, or other fish, to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, without ren-

dering any account, or any thing else to us, our heirs and successors, for the same, and that none shall buy any thing privily in the said town, out of the market or marketplace, upon pain of forfeiture of the thing so bought, to the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, in manner and form aforesaid.

And of our more plentiful, special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs, and successors, do give and grant to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors for ever, may have, receive, and retain to their proper use and behoof, the customs of murage, crannage, quayage, anchorage, and lading, of and for all ships and barges going in or coming out of the said haven of Knockfergus aforesaid, and of and for all merchandize brought in or carried out of the said port of Knockfergus aforesaid, and the bays and creeks of the same, in as ample manner and form, as our city of Dublin, or any other city or town within our realm of Ireland, now hath heretofore had, or hath, or accustomed to have.

And furthermore, of our special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have granted and have given licence to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that they and their successors, from time to time, may be able to purchase and receive, lands, tenements, rents, and all other hereditaments, to the full value of forty pounds, current money of England, by the year, ultra reprizal, or under, but not above, so that the said lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, are not held from

us, our heirs or successors, in capite, or by knight's service, to have and to hold to them their heirs and successors for ever.

And furthermore, for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant licence to all and every person or persons whatsoever, that they, and every of them, may be able and of power to grant, bequeath, or assign or alien the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, any lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, with the appurtenances and form aforesaid, to the yearly value aforesaid, or under, but not above, so that the same lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, be not held of us, our heirs or successors, in capite, nor knight's service, to have and to hold to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors for ever, the statute against land or tenements, put in mortmain, or any other act, statute, ordinance, or provision, to the contrary thereof, made any wise notwithstanding.

And that the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, nor their successors, nor the aforesaid person or persons, nor the heirs of them, or any of them, be troubled or aggrieved by reason of the premiums, or any of them, by us, our justices, escheators, sheriffs, coroners, or other bailiffs or ministers of us, our heirs, and successors, and this without fee or fine, great or small, in the banner of the chancery, or elsewhere, to our use for the premises, or any of the premises, to be paid or done without any inquisition or inquisitions, from thence by precept, or virtue of any of our commissioners, or the commissioners of our heirs or successors, to be returned into our

chancery, or the chancery of our heirs or successors, or elsewhere, and without having, obtaining, or prosecuting any of our writs, or the writs of our heirs or successors, of *ad quod damnum* in that behalf, the statute of not putting lands and tenements into mortmain, or any other statute, act, ordinance, provision, restraints, or other mandates, from thence to the contrary, concerning the same, before these times made or established, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And furthermore, of our ample special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant licence unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors for ever, that it may, and shall be, lawful for the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the aforesaid town, and their successors, and for every of them being merchants of the said town, and not otherwise, to ship, load, carry, and transport from the foresaid town, and from the port of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and from all other ports, creeks, bays, and places between the sound of the Beerloom's and Fair Furlongs, aforesaid, and from every of them, out of one realm and kingdom of Ireland, to all and every our kingdoms and dominions, and to all other regions and kingdoms whatsoever then shall be in our friendship, or the friendship of our heirs and successors for the time being, all manner of grain, so that the price of a Bristol-band barrel of wheat do not exceed the price of sixteen shillings current money of Ireland, and also all other merchandize or ware, commodities, and other things hereafter encreasing, happening,

renewing, or to be made within our kingdom of Ireland, or any part thereof, yielding and paying thereout to us, our heirs and successors, poundage and subsidy, and also the two parts to be divided, parts three of all and singular our customs due and payable to us, our heirs and successors, without any penalty, seizure or forfeiture thereout, to us, our heirs and successors, to be made, rendered, or incurred, saving notwithstanding to us, our heirs and successors, the parts of the customs aforesaid, to be divided into three parts as aforesaid; and also the poundage or payment of twelve pence out of the pound, and all other subsidies, (except the third part of the customs thereout payable,) for all such merchandize to be exported or transported out of the same town or county, and from any port or creek of the same, payable, and to be paid to us, our heirs and successors, unless we, our heirs, or our deputy-general of the said realm of Ireland for the time being, or our council, or the deputy-general, or council of our heirs and successors, there for some just special cause, shall prohibit, and think fit to prohibit such transportations of the grain aforesaid, forbidding that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, for the time being, or their successors, by reason of the premises, should after any manner be occasioned, troubled, forced, vexed, or after any sort grieved by us, our heirs or successors, or by our justices, escheators, sheriffs, bailiffs, customs, or any other of our officers or ministers, or the officers and ministers of our heirs and successors, notwithstanding the statute made in the parliament held in the 66th year of the reign of our predecessor, Lord Edward the fourth, late king of England; that is to say, That

no staple wares should be transported or carried into the realm of Scotland, or into any part thereof, without paying the customs, and that no kind of grain should be laden, shipped or transported out of the said kingdom of Ireland, unless the said grain were under a certain price as in the same act is specified, and notwithstanding the statute made in the 11th and 12th years of the reign of the Lady Elizabeth, late queen of England, by whatsoever merchandize are prohibited to be shipped, embarked, or transported out of this kingdom of Ireland, under sundry pains, as in the said statutes more fully is contained, or any other statute, act, ordinance, or provision whatsoever.

And furthermore, of our more special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, for us, our heirs and successors, we give and grant to the foresaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Carrickfergus aforesaid, and their successors, for the better maintenance of the said town, and the inhabitants thereof, that it shall not be lawful for any persons to discharge, unload or unship, carry, export or convey, any grain, hides, tallow, wool, linen, yarn, cloth of all sorts, or any other commodities or merchandizes whatsoever, in, or to, out, or from, any port, bay, or creek, within the sound of Beer-looms, and Fair Furlongs aforesaid, (the bays or creeks of Belfast, Bangor, and Oldersfleet, only excepted,) except in or at, or out or from the port or quay of the town of Knockfergus, under the pain of forfeiture of all and singular such commodities, things, and merchandizes, so discharged or unloaded, unshipped, carried out, or transported to the foresaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and to their successors, for the

time being, and that no stranger discharge or unload within the said part of the said town of Knockfergus, in or within the limits, franchises, and liberties of the same town, nor shall convey, or carry away, from the said port, any goods, commodities, or merchandizes, to any other place or town, to be sold, or to be put to sale by retail, unless such person or persons so loading and discharging the foresaid commodities and merchandizes, within the said port of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and the franchises and liberties of the same, be free inhabitants and comorants in the said town of Knockfergus, or within the liberties or franchises of the same, or in some other incorporate town in our said realm of Ireland, in whatsoever case we will that every such person or persons immediately before the unloading and discharging of such commodities and merchandize, shall bind themselves to convey and carry away the same commodities and merchandizes, without delay to the said corporate town, there to be sold and put to sale, and in no place else whatsoever.

And furthermore, we have given, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and to their successors, that aforesaid sheriffs of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, whatever for the time being shall be from time to time, shall be able and of power, to account, by an attorney or attorneys, by them deputed by letters patent, under the common seal of the same town, before the treasurer and barons of the exchequer, of our heirs and successors in our realm of Ireland, of all manner of accounts and debts due, levied, or payable by the foresaid sheriffs of the same town,

to us, our heirs and successors, or charged, or to be charged upon them, or any of them, against us, our heirs and successors, and to render account aforesaid, by the said attorneys from time to time before the treasurer and barons of the exchequer aforesaid, and that the said sheriffs upon every account to be made by their attorney aforesaid pay, or cause to be paid, to the officers of our exchequer aforesaid, the sum of six and twenty shillings, and eight pence, current money of Ireland, and no more, for all and every fees and vailes to the officers aforesaid, in that behalf to be given or paid, and that they perfect their accounts aforesaid, in manner aforesaid, by the treasurer and barons of our exchequer, or of our heirs and successors, be admitted and received from time to time, even as if the said sheriffs were present and sworn there in the said court of exchequer, to give a true account thereof, so that the payment of our debts, and the debts of our heirs and successors, on that behalf, be in no wise retarded, and that the sheriffs of the town of Knockfergus, for the time being, and every of them, for ever from time to time, shall take their corporal oaths, before the mayor or of the said town of Knockfergus, for the time being, that every such account, so by them to be transmitted to the exchequer, and by their attorneys, from time to time, to be past as true, and that all and every the mayors of the said town of Knockfergus, for the time being, by these presents, and every of them, may have full power and authority from time to time for ever, to administer all such oaths to the sheriffs aforesaid, without any other commission or warrant of ours, our heirs or successors, to be in that behalf obtained, and that the said sheriff, nor their attorneys, or any

of them, shall be compelled to swear before the treasurer and barons of the exchequer, that such account shall be true, any statute, act, ordinance, prescription, custom, provision, or any other thing whatsoever, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And we also will, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, grant to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus, and to their successors, that the mayor of the aforesaid town for the time being, and his successors mayors of the town aforesaid, for the time being, for ever, viz. that every of them successively during the time he shall be in the office of mayor of the same town, that he may and shall be *custos rotulorum*, recorder of pleas, filers of recognizances, and of all our writs, or the writs of our heirs and successors, in the foresaid town, and in the county of the town aforesaid, and that may do, exercise, and execute all and every thing which to the office of *custos rotulorum*, in the town and county of the town aforesaid, appertaineth to be done, according to the laws and customs of our kingdom of Ireland, to take, receive, and levy all and singular the fees, rewards, advantages, profits, and emoluments whatsoever, to the said office doth belong or appertain.

We also grant, for us, our heirs and successors, unto the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of aforesaid town, and to their successors, that the clerk of the tholsel or the town-clerk of the same town, whoever shall be for the time, and his successors, shall for ever be in times to come the clerk of our crown and peace, in our county of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and that both he and they may have and exercise, and be able and

of power to have and exercise the office of clerk of our crown and peace, and the crown and peace of our heirs and successors, taken thereout all and singular fees, vailes, rewards, profits, and emoluments, whatsoever, belonging to the said office, from time to time, in as ample manner and form as any clerk of the crown and peace, in any other county within our kingdom of Ireland, had or received, hath or receiveth, or ought to have and receive, and to do all and singular what belongs by the clerk of the crown and peace of the said town and county, to be done and exercised, and that no other clerk of the crown or peace, of us, our heirs or successors, or any *custos rotulorum* of ours, our heirs and successors, may enter or intermeddle in any thing that belongs to the office of clerk of the crown and peace, and *custos rotulorum* in the said town and county to be done.

And furthermore, of our more plentiful special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we have given and granted, and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, do give, grant, and confirm to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid and their successors, that the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town aforesaid, and their successors, and all and other the inhabitants of the said town of Knockfergus, from time to time, may, have and every of them may have, enjoy, common of turbary, in all places near Loughmorn, as also common of bog, turbary, and heath, and of all other fewels necessary to be burned in the houses, ovens, and kitchens of the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the said town of Knockfergus aforesaid, or any of them within the aforesaid town, for the space

or circuit of four miles adjacent to the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, in and on every side or part of the same town, without rendering any thing unto us, our heirs and successors for the same, or to any other person or persons whatsoever.

We will, notwithstanding, and grant that it may be lawful to the overseers, and other our officers of our victuals, for the time being, to buy, sell, and have for one garrison, and soldiers residing, to be resident in any part of Ulster, all victuals and other things necessary for them in the same town, and there to sell hides and all other such like things, growing or coming by reason of their office or offices, to our use, or to the use of our army or garrison, there residing or remaining.

And that it shall be lawful for every one of our garrison to provide for himself, and buy there all victuals and other things necessary and belonging to food, cloathing, building and repairing of their houses, without any custom to be paid or given, but so notwithstanding that he nor they may sell, or expose to sale, any parcel thereof, again any thing in this our charter to the contrary, in any wise, notwithstanding.

We also give, and of our special royal favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, grant and confirm to the mayor, sheriffs, burgesses and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, that the aforesaid mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus aforesaid, and their successors, may enjoy and exercise, and have all and singular advantages, by virtue and authority, tenor and power, of all the grants aforesaid, and other gifts and grants of ours, or our progenitors, to the said mayor,

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sheriffs, burgeses, and commonalty of the town of Knockfergus and Drogheda, before the time made and granted by act or acts of any parliament, or otherwise whatsoever, in as full and ample manner and form, as if they had been granted by these presents, without yielding, paying, or doing any fine or fee to us, our heirs, and successors, for the premises, or any of the premises, and without any inquisition or inquisitions of the premises, or of any parcel thereof, by pretence or virtue of our writs of *ad quod damnum*, or any other our commissions, or any other our writs, or the writs of our heirs or successors in our chancery, or in the chancery of our heirs and successors elsewhere, returned, or to be returned, notwithstanding, that any of the aforesaid offices, franchises, liberties, customs, or any other the premises, be not named, or be misnamed, or to be not recited, or to be misrecited, so as there be no express mention made in these presents, of the true yearly value or certainty of the premises, or any of them, or of any other gift or grants, by us, our heirs or successors, or of any of our progenitors, heretofore made to the said mayor, sheriffs, burgesses, and commonalty aforesaid, any statute, act, ordinance, or provision, or any other thing, cause, or matter whatsoever, made contrary to the premises, in any wise notwithstanding.

In witness whereof, we have caused these our letters to be made patents, witness our said deputy-general of our realm of Ireland, at Dublin, the fourteenth day of December, in the tenth year of our reign of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the six and fortieth.

(We hope we have not tired our readers by the insertion of the foregoing)

going Charter. To many it must have appeared tedious and uninteresting, but it was inserted at the particular request of a number of subscribers.—Some Bye Laws of the Corporation will be published in our next number.)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THOMAS DAY. EXTRACTED FROM ANNA SEWARD'S LIFE OF DR. DARWIN, AND THE BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY.

THOMAS DAY, a man of singularly benevolent and independent spirit, was born in London in 1748. His father died while he was an infant, leaving him a considerable fortune. His mother, a woman of sense and a strong mind, brought him up in good habits and dispositions; which exerted an influence upon his whole character through life.* She married soon after her husband's death, a gentleman of the name of Philips. This man was one of those common characters, who seek to supply their inherent want of consequence, by a busy, teasing interference in circumstances, with which they have no real concern. Mrs. Philips, influenced by such a husband, often rendered uncomfortable, the domestic situation of a high-spirited youth of genius; yet he possessed all those

qualities which adorn human nature in such an eminent degree, that his first act on coming of age, was to augment his mother's jointure, and to settle it upon Mr. Philips during his life. This bounty, to a man who had needlessly mortified him, and embittered so many years of his infancy and youth, evinced a very elevated mind.

Even at that period, "when youth elate and gay, steps into life," Mr. Day was a rigid moralist. Though he had no intention of confining himself to the pursuits of a particular profession, he entered at the Middle Temple in 1765, and he so far made a study of the law, as at length to be called to the bar. But the study of men and manners was his favourite object. The fruit of these researches into the condition of mankind seems, at first, to have produced a kind of melancholy, proceeding from a sense of its wretchedness; but the native strength of his benevolence enabled him in some degree, to surmount this impression, and what remained was an ardent and active zeal for opposing tyranny in all its shapes, and promoting the welfare of his fellow creatures. His strict integrity, energetic friendship, open-handed bounty, sedulous and diffusive charity, greatly over-balanced, on the side of virtue, the tincture of misanthropic gloom, and proud contempt of society that frequently marked his character.

In 1770, he went to reside at Litchfield. He then looked the philo-

* It is probable that he received from his mother an education well fitted to call forth strength of character, and to display the energies of a powerful mind. An instance of courage and strength of mind is related of her. While walking alone through a field, she was attacked by a fierce bull. She endeavoured to escape by flight, but finding that the animal gained on her, she resolutely turned round, and unfolding an umbrella, which she held in her hand, she faced him, using the umbrella as a shield, and thus retreated, till she was able to clear the ditch and escape his rage.

sopher. Powder and fine clothes were, at that time, the appendages of gentlemen; Mr. Day wore not either. He was tall and stooped in the shoulders, full made, but not corpulent; and in his melancholy and meditative air a degree of awkwardness was blended. His features were interesting and agreeable amidst the traces of a severe small-pox: there was a sort of weight upon the lids of his large hazel eyes; yet when he declaimed,

..... "Of good and evil,
Passion, and apathy, and glory, and shame,"
very expressive were the energies gleaming from them, beneath the shade of sable hair, which curled about his brows.

He possessed true compassion for the poor in their sufferings of cold and hunger; to the power of relieving them he nobly sacrificed all the parade of life, and all the pleasures of luxury. He was fond of rational society, but he disliked fashionable circles, and entertained supreme contempt for those who arrogate consequence upon the mere grounds of rank and wealth. Above all things he expressed aversion to the modern plans of female education. He had learned, from some disappointments in very early life, to look back with resentment to the allurements of the graces. He resolved, if possible, that his wife should have a taste for literature and science, for moral and patriotic philosophy, that she might be his companion in that retirement to which he had destined himself; and assist him in forming the minds of his children to stubborn virtue and high exertion. He resolved also, that she should be as simple as a mountain girl in her dress, her diet, and her manners; fearless and intrepid as the Spartan wives and Roman heroines. There was no finding such a creature; philosophical

romance could not hope it. He must mould some infant into the being his fancy had imaged; he nursed systematic ideas of the force of philosophic tuition to produce future virtue, and he determined to mould the infant and youthful mind.

After procuring credentials of his moral probity, he set out with his friend Mr. Bicknel, a barrister, to the town of Shrewsbury, to explore the hospital in that town for foundling girls. From the little train, Mr. Day in the presence of Mr. Bicknel, selected two of twelve years each; both beautiful; one fair, with flaxen locks, and light eyes; her he called Lucretia. The other, a clear brunette, with darker eyes, more glowing bloom, and chestnut tresses, he named Sabrina. These girls were obtained on written conditions, for the performance of which Mr. Bicknel was guarantee. They were to this effect; that Mr. Day should, within a year after taking them, resign one into the protection of some reputable tradeswoman, giving one hundred pounds to bind her apprentice; maintaining her, if she behaved well, till she married, or began business for herself; upon either of these events, he promised to advance four hundred more. He avowed his intention of educating the girl he should retain, with the view of making her his future wife; solemnly engaging, if he should renounce his plan, to maintain her in some respectable family till she married, when he promised five hundred pounds as her wedding portion.

Mr. Day went instantly to France with these girls; not even taking an English servant, that they might receive no ideas, except those which he might choose to impart. They teized and perplexed him; they quarrelled, and fought incessantly; they sickened of the small-pox; they chained him to their bed side by

crying, and screaming if they were ever left a moment with any person who could not speak to them in *English*. They lost no beauty by their disease. Soon after they had recovered, crossing the Rhone with his wards in a tempestuous day, the boat overset. Being an excellent swimmer he saved them both, though with difficulty and danger to himself. He came back to England in eight months, heartily glad to separate the little squabblers. Sabrina was become the favourite; he placed Lucretia with a chamber milliner. She behaved well and became the wife of a respectable linen-draper in London. On his return to his native country, he entrusted Sabrina to the care of Mr Bicknel's mother, with whom she resided some months in a country village, while he settled his affairs at his own mansion-house.

After taking possession of his mansion, he resumed his preparations for implanting in Sabrina's young mind the characteristic virtues of Arria, Portia, and Cornelia; his experiments had not the success he wished and expected; her spirit could not be armed against the dread of pain and the appearance of danger. When he dropped melted sealing-wax upon her arms she did not endure it heroically, nor when he fired pistols at her petticoats, which she believed to be charged with balls, could she help starting aside, or suppress her screams. When he tried her fidelity in secret-keeping, by telling her of well-invented dangers to himself, in which greater danger would result from its being discovered that he was *aware* of them, he once or twice detected her having imparted the secret to the servants, and to her play-fellows. She betrayed an aversion to the study of books, and of the rudiments of science, which gave little promise of ability,

that should one day be responsible for the education of youths, who were to emulate the Gracchi.

Mr. Day persisted in these experiments, and sustained their continual disappointment during the whole year: The difficulty seemed to lie in giving Sabrina a *motive* to exertion, self-denial, and heroism. It was against his plan to draw it from the usual source, pecuniary reward, luxury, ambition, or vanity. His watchful cares precluded all knowledge of the value of money, the reputation of beauty, and its concomitant desire of ornamented dress. The only inducement, therefore, which this lovely artless girl could have to combat and subdue the natural preference, of ease to pain, of vacant sport to the labour of thinking, was the desire of pleasing her protector, though she knew not how, or why he became such. In that desire, *fear* had greatly the ascendant of *affection*, and fear is a cold and indolent feeling.

Thus after a series of fruitless trials, Mr. Day renounced all hope of moulding Sabrina into the being his imagination had formed; and ceasing to behold her as his future wife, he placed her at a boarding-school in Warwickshire. His trust in the power of education faltered; his aversion to modern elegance subsided. From the time he first lived near Lichfield, he had daily conversed with the beautiful Honora Sneyd; without having received a Spartan education, she united a disinterested desire to please, fortitude of spirit, native strength of intellect, literary and scientific taste, to unswerving truth, and to *all* the graces. She was the very Honora Sneyd, to whom the gallant and unfortunate Major Andre's unextinguishable passion is on poetic, as his military fame and hapless destiny are on patriotic record; pa-

rental authority having dissolved their juvenile engagements, Mr. Day offered to Honora his philosophic hand. She admired his talents; she revered his virtues; she tried to school her heart into softer sentiments in his favour; she did not succeed in the attempt, and ingenuously told him so. Her sister, Elizabeth Sneyd, one year younger, was very pretty, very sprightly, very artless, very engaging, though countless degrees inferior to the endowed and adorned Honora;—To her the yet love-luckless sage transferred the heart, which Honora had with sighs resigned. Elizabeth told Mr. Day she *could* have loved him, if he had acquired the manners of the world, instead of those austere singularities of air, habit, and address.

He began to impute to fickleness, the involuntary iciness of the charming Honora, as well as that for which her sister had accounted. He told Elizabeth, that, for her sake, he would renounce his prejudices to external refinements and try to acquire them. He would go to Paris, and commit himself to dancing and fencing masters. He did so; stood daily an hour or two in frames, to screw back his shoulders, and point his feet; he practised the military gait, the fashionable bow, minuets, and cotillions; but it was too late; habits, so long fixed, could be no more than partially overcome. The endeavour, made at intervals, and by visible effort, was really more ungraceful than the natural stoop and unfashionable air;—neither was the showy dress, in which he came back to his fair one, a jot more becoming.

Poor Elizabeth reproached her reluctant, but insuppressive ingratitude, upon which all this labour, these sacrifices had been wasted. She confessed, that Thomas Day,

blackguard, as she used jestingly to style him, *less* displeased her eye than Thomas Day, *fine gentleman*.

Thus again disappointed, he resumed his accustomed plainness of garb, and neglect of his person, and went again to the continent for another year, with pursuits of higher aim, more congenial to his talents and former principles. Deviating from the usual mode of fashionable tourists, he fixed his residence for sometime in particular spots; making himself thoroughly acquainted with the way of life followed by classes of society seldom known to travellers, and finding occupation for his benevolence in the relief of their distresses. Returning to England in the year 1773, he saw Honora Sneyd united to his friend Mr. Edgeworth, of Edgeworth's-town in Ireland, who was become a widower; and in the year 1780, he learned that Elizabeth Sneyd, was also, after the death of Honora married to Mr. Edgeworth. It was singular that Thomas Day should thus, in the course of seven years, find himself doubly rivalled by his most intimate friend; but his own previously renounced pursuit of those beautiful young women, left him without either cause or sensation of resentment on their account.

From the year 1773 this hitherto love-renounced philosopher resided chiefly in London, and amid the small and select circle which he visited there, often met the elegant Esther Mills of Derbyshire, who, with modern acquirements, and amongst modish luxuries suited to her large fortune, had cultivated her understanding by books, and her virtues by benevolence. The again unpolished stoic had every charm in her eyes,

“She saw Othello's visage in his mind;”

But from indignant recollection of

hopes so repeated baffled, Mr. Day looked with distrust on all females; and it was not for many years that he deigned to ask Miss Mills, if she could, for his sake, resign all that the world calls pleasures, all its luxuries, and all its ostentation. If, with him, she could resolve to employ, after the ordinary comforts of life were supplied, the surplus of her affluent fortune in clothing the naked, and feeding the hungry; retire with him into the country, and shun, through remaining existence, the infectious taint of human society.

To proposals so formidable, so sure to be rejected by a heart less than infinitely attached, Miss Mills gladly assented; but something more remained. He insisted that her whole fortune should be settled on herself, totally out of his present or future controul; that if she grew tired of a system of life so likely to weary a woman of the world, she might return to that world any hour she chose, fully empowered to resume its habits and its pleasures.

They married, retired into the country about the year 1780: no carriage, no appointed servant about Mrs. Day's own person; no luxury of any sort. Music, in which she was a distinguished proficient, was deemed trivial. She banished her harpsicord and music books. Frequent experiments upon her temper, and her attachment, were made by him, whom she lived but to obey and love; over these she often wept, but never repined. No wife, bound in the strictest fetters, as to the incapacity of claiming separate maintenance, ever made more absolute sacrifices to the most imperious husband, than did this lady, whose independence had been secured, and of whom nothing was demanded as a duty. Thus he found, at last, amid the very class he dread-

ed, that of fashionable women, a heart whose passion for him supplied all the requisites of his heightened expectations.

Sabrina remained at school three years, and gained the esteem of her instructress; she grew feminine, elegant, and amiable. She proved one of the many instances that those modes of education, which have been sanctioned by long experience, are seldom abandoned to advantage by ingenious system-mongers. When she left school, Mr. Day allowed her fifty pounds annually. She lived some years near Birmingham, and afterwards in Shropshire: wherever she resided, wherever she paid visits, she secured to herself friends. Mr. Day corresponded with her parentally; two years after his marriage and in her twenty-sixth year, his friend Mr. Bicknel, proposed himself; that very Mr. Bicknel who went with Thomas Day to the foundling hospital at Shrewsbury, and by whose suretyship for his upright intentions the governors of that charity permitted Sabrina and Lucretia to be taken from thence. More from prudential motives, than affection, Sabrina accepted Mr. Bicknel's addresses, yet became one of the best of wives. Mr. Day gave her the promised dower of five hundred pounds.

Mr. Bicknel, without patrimonial fortune, and living up to his professional income, did not save money; his wife brought him two boys; when the eldest was about five years old, their father was seized with a paralytic stroke, which in a few weeks terminated fatally. His widow had no means of independent support for herself and her infants. Mr. Day allowed her thirty pounds annually, to assist the efforts which he expected she would make for the maintenance of herself and children. To have been more bounteous must

surely have been in his *heart*, but it was not in his *system*. The sum of eight hundred pounds was raised among the gentlemen of the bar, for Mrs. Bicknel and her sons. This excellent woman lived many years with Dr. Burney of Greenwich as his housekeeper and assistant in the cares of his academy; she was treated by him and his friends with every mark of esteem and respect due to a gentlewoman, and one whose virtues entitled her to universal approbation.

Mr. Day's residence after marriage was first in Essex, and afterwards in Surry, where he occupied a considerable farm, in the experimental processes of which he largely employed the neighbouring poor. From extensive knowledge, ready eloquence, and undaunted spirit, he was well calculated to take a part in political life; but he was void of ambition. The national circumstances, however, called him out in 1780, to make a public opposition to the American war, which he had execrated at its commencement; he joined with this object that of parliamentary reform, which, indeed, he considered as the basis of every other political reformation. He joined his friend Mr. Bicknel in writing the "Dying Negro," a poem intended to interest the feelings against slavery. His strain of poetry was nervous and animated; his imagery striking, and versification correct. He painted the horrors of war very strongly in his poem entitled "The desolation of America." In 1782, he published a pamphlet on the state of England and the independence of America, strongly recommending the termination of the dispute. We must pardon his philippic against the Americans, when we consider that generous indignation at the slave trade practiced without remorse in the southern co-

lonies of North America, induced him to refuse them all credit for the patriotic virtue of that resistance to new and unconstitutional claims, which threatened their liberties. In 1784 he published a "Fragment of a letter on the slavery of the negroes:" This had been written some years before at the instigation of an American gentleman, but the publication had been suspended during the war. Its tenor may be inferred from the following passage; "If there be an object truly ridiculous in nature, it is an American patriot, signing resolutions of independence with one hand, and with the other brandishing a whip over his affrighted slaves."

Another kind of writing by which Mr. Day displayed his zeal for the good of mankind, was the composition of books for children. His "Sandford and Merton," of which the first volume appeared in 1783, and the third in 1789, proved one of the most popular in this class, and is by wise parents put into every youthful hand. It powerfully inculcates all the manly virtues of courage, activity, temperance, independence and generosity, and contains many useful instructions in the principles of science. Perhaps "Sandford and Merton" errs in proposing a mode of education too little accommodated to the actual state of manners, and which shows that Thomas Day was rather a speculator in this point than a practitioner. He never had children of his own, or he would most likely have found theory and practice widely different.

Mr. Day's constitutional fault like the amiable Cowper's, seemed that of looking with severe and disgusted eyes on those errors in his species, which are mutually tolerated by mankind. This stain of misanthropy was extremely deepened by his commerce with the world, restrain-

ed as that commerce had ever been. Sarcastic and discerning, it was not easy to deceive him; yet in a few instances, he was deceived by the appearance of virtues congenial to his own.

"For neither man nor angel can discern Hypocrisy, the only evil that walks invisible, except to God alone."

About eight or ten years after his marriage, the life of this singular being became, in its meridian, a victim to one of his uncommon systems. He thought highly of the gratitude, generosity and sensibility of horses; and that whenever they were disobedient, unruly, or vicious, it was owing to previous ill-usage from men. He had reared, fed, and tamed a favourite foal; when it was time it should become serviceable, disdaining to employ a horse-breaker, he would use it to the bit and burthen himself. He was not a good horseman. The

animal disliking his new situation, heeded not the soothing voice to which he had been accustomed: he plunged, threw his master, and then, with his heels, struck him on the head, an instantly fatal blow. - Thus he died a victim to his enthusiastic ideas of humanity, in his 42d year. It was said that Mrs. Day never afterwards saw the sun; that she lay in bed, into the curtains of which no light was admitted during the day, and she only rose to stray alone through her garden, when night gave her sorrows congenial gloom. She survived this adored husband two years, and then died, broken-hearted, for his loss. Mrs. Bicknel's name was not mentioned in Mr. Day's will, but Mrs. Day continued the allowance he had made her, and bequeathed its continuance from her own fortune, during Mrs. Bicknel's life.

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

EMPLOYMENT OF A WOMAN IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

From Olivier's Travels.

"TO please her husband, to detain him in the harem as long as his affairs permit, to take care of her children, to occupy herself with her dress, and very little with her family, to pray at the hours prescribed by religion, and to pass a part of the day without doing any thing, another in smoking, drinking coffee, receiving female friends, relations, or women under her protection; such are the duties and pleasures of a Turkish woman. She seldom can read, and scarcely ever write; she has learnt to sew and embroider, prepare comfits and dainties, and make sherbet; but she

finds it more pleasant to do nothing, to remain quiet on her sofa, and roll between her fingers a chaplet of coral or agate. She considers it as a delightful employment to hold, from time to time, a dish of coffee in one hand, a pipe in the other, and to carry them alternately to her mouth, at the same time intaling the vapour of the one, and retaining as long as possible that of the other; what afterwards gratifies her the most, is to have it in her power to display to the eyes of the women whom she receives, some rich trinkets, and a robe of great value.

"A mussulman is very poor if he have not several slaves to wait on his wife, and the latter is very unskilful if she do not soon convert in-

to dresses and trinkets the greatest part of the husband's fortune."

We are often surprized at the relations of travellers, while conduct almost entirely similar passes unobserved among ourselves.

Might not an attentive observer, who joined a turn for sarcasm, with acute observation, find at home some who wasted their time in the apparent employment, but real idleness, of embroidery and ornamental needle work, who if they read, deal only in novels and *light* reading, and carry a large portion of their husband's property to public places in jewels, or waste it at card tables? Turkish women are not the only triflers.

WORLDLY PRUDENCE OF ARCHBISHOP USHER.

Many great characters have striking blemishes. Cranmer recanted through fear, and if the following account can be implicitly relied on, Usher suppressed his real sentiments, through the temporizing motives of worldly prudence:

"Mr. Bernard, of Batcombe, Somerset, was a presbyterian divine of some note. He is said by Ludlow, [8vo. i. 104.] to have been an acquaintance of Archbishop Usher's, and that when the said Mr. B. earnestly pressed him "to deal faithfully with the king, in the controversy which was between him and the parliament concerning episcopacy, according to his own judgment in that manner, which he knew to be against it, representing to him the great and important service he would thereby do to the church of God." The archbishop answered, that if he should do as Mr. B. proposed, he should ruin himself and family, having a child and many debts. Of this story, Ludlow was assured by one who had his information from Mr. Bernard himself. Ludlow's application of the anecdote

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reads a very serious lecture to all such *mala fide* churchmen, who, if the allusion were not too *homely*, might be compared to boatmen looking one way, and rowing another. Ludlow was a brave soldier, and an honest man, even in the judgment of his enemies. The royalists desired his political conversion, and hoped that a conference with Archbishop Usher might effect it. The conference was declined by Ludlow. "For this reason," says he, "because those arguments which could not prevail with me, were used by others, were not likely to be of more efficacy from him, who, in a business of such concernment, had been diverted from the discharge of his duty, by such low and sordid considerations."

MAN DIFFERS FROM HIMSELF AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF HIS LIFE.

Thomas More in his *Utopia* wrote well and liberally. He declared himself freely and fully against putting thieves to death. Yet this same man suffered himself to be influenced by bigotry, and a spirit of persecution. "But he was a notable tyrant," said old Luther, indignantly, and justly. "He was one of the bitterest enemies," says Burnet, "of the new preachers, not without great cruelty when he came into power, though he was otherwise a very good-natured man;" and though in the opinion of Dr. Jortin "he had once been free from that bigotry which grew upon him afterwards in life." Yes, the philosophy, the sagacity, the piety, the benevolence of More, did not preserve him from the reigning prejudices of his day against the crime of heresy; and they who will consult Mr. Lyson's excellent work on the environs of London, will be led to many serious reflections upon human infirmity, when they read the wanton cruelties which in More's presence, or even by his

E e e

own hand, were exercised against heretics, at a tree which he employed for this very purpose in his garden at Hammersmith. For his holy but barbarous zeal, he could easily find pretexts arising from the perversions of the reasoning power, and the prevalence of self-deception over the human mind.

[See *Dr. Parr on Punishments.*]

GRAMMATICAL DISTINCTIONS PREFERRED TO POLITICS.

It is related of Dangeau, that he was such an enthusiast in the study of Grammar, on which subject he composed several treatises, that once being told some interesting political news, he replied, between jest and earnest, "Happen what will, I have in my port folio, two thousand French verbs, well conjugated."

PRONENESS TO SUPERSTITION.

Mons. de Fontenelle, a writer justly celebrated for his admirable parts and learning, speaking of the origin and progress of popular superstitions, says, "Give me but half a dozen persons, whom I can persuade, that it is not the sun which makes our day light, and I should not despair of drawing whole nations to embrace the same belief. For how ridiculous soever the opinion be, let it be supported only for a certain time, and the business is done: for when it once becomes ancient, it is sufficiently proved."

What would Fontenelle have said to the following note in the sermon of the venerable and learned Bishop Jewel, preached before Queen Elizabeth? "It may please your Grace to understand, that this kind of people, I mean witches, and sorcerers, within these few years are marvellously increased, within your Grace's realm. These eyes have seen most manifest marks of their wickedness.

"Your Grace's subjects pine away,

even unto death; their colour fadeth; their flesh rotteth; their speech is benumbed; their senses bereft. Wherefore your poor subject's humble petition to your Highness is, that the laws touching such malefactors, may be put in due execution. For the shoal of them is great, their doings horrible, their malice intolerable, their examples most miserable: and I pray God they never practice farther than upon the subject."

GEOGRAPHY TAUGHT IN HALF AN HOUR.

No part of education, excepting that of natural philosophy, is more important in the point of instruction, than geography. They sometimes ask me, when should we begin it. I have given my answer, in a little almanack, the first lesson of a course of geography. Complain as you will of abridgments, they are necessary. This is the reason I begin with the shortest of all abridgments—The whole of geography taught in half an hour.

I take a globe of the earth, and I say to my pupil, Let us make the tour of the world with General Bougainville, or Captain Cook. Let us set sail from Brest. We will shortly on our voyage meet with Madeira, a place famous for its wines. Then we will gain the coasts of South America, which furnishes gold, and silver, and chocolate, and Peruvian-bark. And then we will take a peep at the great Patagonians. We then enter into a great sea of 2000 leagues in extent. There we will find Robinson Crusoe's Island, Otaheite, New-Zealand, where Captain Martin was devoured by the Savages, with all his officers. Beyond this, the Moluccas, where they get the mercede. China, which furnishes us with porcelain. India, which gives muslin, canella, pearls and diamonds. We will return by the coast of Africa, from whence we

draw the Negroes. And we return to Brest the end of our three years voyage, of which the child gets an idea in half an hour, and an idea associated with the most remarkable things, and the most known, on which

the master should amplify, so as to excite a lively curiosity and interest in geography, and a disposition to detail that we must bring forward by a slow gradation — *De La Lande*.

POETRY.

1797.

JUVENAL,

Part of 8th Satire—imitated.

SAY ye who perch on lofty pedigree,
What fruit is gather'd from the parchment
tree?

Broad as it spreads, and tow'ring to the
skies,

From root plebeian, its first glories rise;
What then avails, when rightly understood,
The boast of ancestry, the pride of blood?
Through the long gall'ries pictur'd walk to
tread,

And, pompous, ponder on the mighty dead,
Where greatness rattles in some rotten
frame,

And the moth feeds on beauty's fading
flame,

O'er the pale portrait, and the noseless bust,
Oblivion strews a soft, sepulchral dust;
The line illustrious seems to stain the wall,
And one sublime of soot envelopes all.
What could the trophy'd lie to Howe atone
For British honour mortgag'd with his
own?

His nightly cares and watchings to sustain
A bank at Pharo, and a chess-campaign?
While Wolfe, on high, in pictur'd glory, lies,
The cry of vict'ry hails, and, smiling, dies.
Dare Courtenay claim the honours of his
kind?

The pompous lineage shames the pigmy
mind.

His coat armorial chalk'd upon the floor,
Costs what would satiate a thousand poor.
Well-pleas'd the peer one moment to a-
muse,

Then yields the pageant to the dancer's
shoes.

Base-born such men, tho' fill'd with re-
gal blood,
The truly noble are the truly good;
And he whose morals thro' his manners
shine,

May boast himself of the Milesian line.
Let plain humility precede his grace,
Let modest merit walk before the mace;
Office and rank are duties of the mind,
The rights they claim, are debts they owe
mankind;

And not a voice among the nameless croud,
That may not cry—'Tis I who make them
proud.

To rule strong passions with a calm con-
troul,

To spread around a sanctity of soul,
That meets, serene, the foam of public
strife,

And perfumes every act of lesser life,
Virtue to feel, and virtue to impart,
That household God which consecrates the
heart,

Flies from the fretted roof, the gilded
dome

To rest within an humbler, happier home;
Behold the GENTLEMAN—confess'd and
clear,

For nature's patent never made a peer,
The mean ennobled, nor adorn'd the base;
Merit alone, with her, creates a race.

Conspicuous stars, in chart of his'try
plac'd,

To cheer the dreary, biographic waste,
In their own right, they take their seats
sublime,

And break illustrious through the cloud of
time.

From nicknam'd curs these titles first
began,

A Spaniel, Cato—then my Lord, a Man.
The self-same irony was fram'd to suit
The fawning biped, and the fawning brute;
While Pompey snores upon my Lady's lap,
The infant Lordling feeds, or starves on
pap.

Puppies well-bred, art Caesar'd into fame,
And Tommy Townsend takes great Sid-
ney's name.

Still as the name grows soil'd, and gathers
 dirt,
 They shift their title; as they change their
 shirt,
 Some newer honour makes them white and
 fair,
 Sidney soaps Tom, and Jack is cleans'd by
 Clare.
 But how could wash of heraldry efface
 The name of Burke,* and dignify disgrace!
 Could peerage blazon o'er the pension'd
 page,
 Or give a gloss to ignominious age?
 Himself, the prime corrupter of his laws,
 Himself, the grievance which incens'd he
 draws;
 Not to be blam'd, but in a tender tone;
 Not to be prais'd, but with a heart-felt
 groan;
 He lives, a lesson for all future time,
 Pathetically great, and painfully sublime.

O why is genius curs'd with length of
 days?

The head still flourishing, the heart decays;
 Protracted life makes virtue less secure,
 The death of wits is seldom premature.

Quench'd too by years, gigantic Johnson's
 zeal,
 The unwieldy Elephant was taught to kneel,
 Bore his strong tower to please a servile
 court,
 And wreath'd his lithe proboscis for their
 sport.

Of Burke and Johnson fly th' opprobrious
 fame;
 And if you seek the glory, dread the shame.
 The much-prais'd Press, has made abortive
 men,
 The hand herculean lifts the puny pen,
 For clang of armour, and for deeds sub-
 lime,
 Much pointed period, much syllabic chime.

Return to him, from whom our satire
 springs,
 Rich in the blood of concubines and kings,
 With greatness rising from a grandsire's
 bone,
 And bastard honour from a bastard throne.
 His turgid veins the true succession shows,
 Th' imperial purple flames—upon his nose.
 Avault, he cries, ye vulgar and ye base,
 Learn the prerogatives of royal race,
 From York and Lancaster, conjoin'd I
 come,

* There was an idea of hiding the name
 of Burke under a Title.

Sink down, ye dregs—I float at top—the
 scum.

Yet grant that some, the lowest of the
 throng,
 Have known the right, as well as felt the
 wrong,

That he who rul'd with iron rod, the skies;
 And at whose feet the broken sceptre lies,
 He too, whose daring democratic pen
 Gives common-sense once more to common
 men,

Who smiles at genius in confusion hurl'd,
 And, with light lever, elevates the world;
 Ofant, that such men, the Adams of their
 line

Spring from the earth, but own a sire divine;
 While you, with ancestry around you
 plac'd,

In bronze or marble, porcelain or paste;
 May rise at death, to alabaster fame,
 And gain the smoke of honour, not the
 flame.

Thus far for him, the proud inflated lord,
 With father concubin'd, and mother whor'd!
 In all so high in rank, or man, or woman;
 No sense so rare, as what we call the com-
 mon.

Scorning that level, they ascend the skies
 Like the puff'd bag, whose lightness makes
 it rise;

Titles and arms the varnish'd silk may bear,
 Within—'tis nought but pestilential air.

What's honour?—virtue to its height
 refin'd,

The felt aroma of the unseen mind,
 That cheers the senses, tho' it cheats the
 sight,
 And spreads abroad, its elegant delight.

Turn from the past, and bring thy hon-
 ours home—

Thyself the ancestor, for times to come.

Not the low parasite who prowls for
 bread,
 So mean as he who lives upon the dead,
 From some dri'd mummy draws his noble
 claim.

Snuffs up the factor, and believes it fame.

Be just, be generous, self-dependent,
 brave

Think nothing meaner than a titl'd slave;
 Coolly resolve to act the patriot part,
 Join Sidney's pulse to Russell's generous
 heart:

With proud complacence stand, like Pal-
 mer, pure,

Or, with mild dignity of honest Muir,

Before the brazen bulls of law, and hear
The savage sentence, with a smile severe,
A smile that deems it mercy to be hurl'd,
Where one may tread, against the present
world.

What is life, here? its zest, and flavour
gone,
The flow'r faded, and its essence flown.
What precious balm, what aromatic art,
Can cleanse pollution from the public heart?

Better to make the farthest earth our
home,
With nature's commoner's at large to roam,
Than join this social war of clan to clan,
Where civil life has barbariz'd the man.

Behold you *isle*—the glory of the west,
By nature's hand, in lively verdure drest,
How to the world, it spreads its harbour'd
side,

And proudly swells above th' Atlantic tide,
Where to the ocean, Shannon yields his
store,

And scorns the channel of a subject shore.
Green meadows spread—resplendent rivers
run—

A healthy climate, and a temperate sun.
There—misery sits, and eats her lazy root,
There—man is proud to dog his brother
brute—

In sloth, the genius of the Isle decays,
Lost in his own, reverts to former days,
Yet still, like Lear, would in his hovel rule,
Mock'd by the madman, jested by the fool.

There meet th' extremes of rank, there
social art,

Has leav'd mankind by the selfish heart.
There no contempt'd middle rank we trace,
The sole ambition to be rich and base.
Some, o'er their native element, elate,
Like ice-form'd islands, tow'r in frozen
state,

Repel all nature, with their gelid breath,
And what seems harbour, is the jaw of
death;

The wretched mass beat down the strug-
gling mind,
Nor see, nor feel their country, nor their
kind;

But bow the back, and bend the eye to
earth,
And strangle feeling, in its infant birth;
Through all, extends one sterile swamp of
soul,
And fogs of apathy invest the whole.

Thrice blest in fate, had Strongbow ne-
ver bore,
His band of robbers to green Erin's shore!

In savage times, the seat of learning known
In times refin'd, itself the savage grown;
Left to herself, she of herself had join'd
Surrounding nations, in the race of mind.
With them, work'd off the rough barbar-
ian soul,

With them progressive to a common goal.
Her petty chieftains, conquer'd by the
throne,

For common interest, while it meant its
own;

By law, at length, the King to people
chain'd,

His duties modell'd, and their rights main-
tain'd,

From strong collision of internal strife,
Had sprung an energy of public life,
(For pain and travail that precede the
birth,

Endear sweet freedom to the mother earth.)
Then, man had rais'd his spacious fore-head
high,

Lord, of himself, the sea, the soil, the sky,
Twin'd round his sword, the wreath of civi-
art,

And prov'd the wisdom of a fearless heart:
No penal code had then impal'd the land—

* * * * *

X.

SELECTED POETRY.

ODE TO PATIENCE.

BY THE LATE MRS. SHERIDAN, MOTHER
TO R. B. SHERIDAN.

UNAW'D by threats, unmoved by force,
My steady soul pursues her course,
Collected, calm, resigned;
Say, you who search with curious eyes,
The source whence human actions rise,
Say, whence this turn of mind;

'Tis patience....Lenient goddess, hail!
Oh! let thy votary's vow prevail,
Thy threaten'd flight to stay;
Long hast thou been a welcome guest,
Long reign'd an inmate in this breast,
And rul'd with gentle sway.

Thro' all the various turns of fate,
Ordain'd me in each several state,
My wayward lot has known;
What taught me silently to bear,
To curb the sigh, to check the tear,
When sorrow weigh'd me down?

'Twas patience....Temperate goddess, stay!
For still thy dictates I obey,
Nor yield to passion's power;

'Tho' by injurious foes borne down,
My fame, my toil, my hopes o'erthrown,
In one ill-fated hour.

When robb'd of what I held most dear,
My hands adorn'd the mournful bier,
Of her I lov'd so well;

What, when mute sorrow chain'd my
tongue,

As o'er the sable hearse I hung,
Forbade the tide to swell?

'Twas Patience.....Goddess ever calm!

Oh! pour into my breast thy balm,
That antidote to pain;

Which flowing from thy nectar'd urn,
By chemistry divine can turn,
Our losses into gain.

When sick, and languishing in bed,
Sleep from my restless couch had fled,

(Sleep which e'en pain beguiles)

What taught me calmly to sustain,
A feverish being rack'd with pain,
And dress'd my looks in smiles?

'Twas Patience..... Heaven descended maid!

Implor'd, flew swiftly to my aid,

And lent her fostering breast;

Watch'd my sad hours with parent care,

Repell'd the approaches of despair,
And sooth'd my soul to rest.

Say, when discever'd from his side,
My friend, protector, and my guide,

When my prophetic soul,

Anticipating all the storm,

Saw danger in its direst form,

What could my fear controul?

'Twas Patience..... Gentle goddess, hear!

Be ever to thy suppliant near,

Nor let one murmur rise;

Since still some mighty joys are given,

Dear to my soul the gifts of heaven,

The sweet domestic ties.

THE WEDDING-RING.

ANNETTE was milder than the dew,

That spangles Arno's scented grove,

And Lubin, constant, fond, and true,

As ever told the tale of love,

One eve, with chaste, yet mantling smile,

He bade her guess what he could bring,

Then, from a bosom void of guile,

He blush'd, and trembling took a ring.

The maiden flutter'd, sidled, sigh'd,

Oh, Cupid, 'twas a charming scene,

And with affected coyness, cry'd,

Dear, what can such a trinket mean?

'Meau! cry'd the youth, with glowing
cheek,

And hurried that she so mistook;

A ring-dove dropt it from his beak,

I pick'd it up in yonder brook.

And much we owe, my lovely fair,

To this kind token of the dove,

Who dropt it for the purpose there,

A faithful emblem of our love.

It is of clearest gold refin'd,

Affection's chastest sigh, be sure,

And polish'd, like my Annette's mind,

As simple, elegant, and pure.

Its round too—what is that to prove,

To what can such an emblem tend?

What but th' eternity of love,

A love, like mine, that knows no end.

Annette, they say—nay in this curve

No sorcery lurks, nor lawless art,

That in this finger there's a nerve

Which leads directly to the heart.

Touch'd by this gold, for raptur'd there

Love's charming witcheries are such,

Fancy would fatter to declare

The thrilling pleasure—Shall I touch?

It struck her finger—raptur'd quite

She cry'd—You're foolish, ~~get you gone—~~

Yet, if the touch be such delight,

What happiness to put it on?

He seized the hint—the willing maid

Scarce knew what she had said or done,

But love's sweet influence obey'd,

And kiss'd the ring that made them ~~one~~.

And now when rude or playful jest,

At happy wedlock had its fling,

She clasps her Lubin to her breast,

And smiling shews—her wedding-ring.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

(Continuation of the Report of Mathematical
Class of Institute.)

MR. SAGE has also written a pa-
per, and Messrs. Guyton and

Vauquelin presented a report on the
advantages and inconveniences of em-
ploying zinc in covering houses. The

section of chemistry, at the desire of the minister of the home department, has pointed out what are the manufactures that are injurious to those who dwell in their vicinity, and what are the measures proper to be employed, to reconcile the interests of the manufacturer with those of the public. Reports have likewise been made on Mr. Tarry's writing-ink, incapable of being effaced by acids or alkalis; on the artificial turquoises of M. de Sauriac, which promise a new source of wealth; and on the late M. Bacheliers, plaster for preserving stone. Of all these we hope soon to be able to lay before our readers a more particular account.

The department of mineralogy does not afford so rich a harvest this year, as it has done in some others. M. Guyton has made known a new crystalline form of the diamond. It is composed of two demi-spheroids, united in a macle or twin crystal. He has shown also, that lead, like other metals, is rendered more dense by hammering, provided it be confined so as to be incapable of extension.

M. Sage has found, that the chrysolite of volcanoes reduced to powder, may be substituted for emery.

One of the most important objects in geology is no doubt that of fossil animals, and M. Cuvier has continued his researches respecting them. In concert with M. Brongniart, he has finished his mineralogical geography of the environs of Paris. He has also investigated the bony breccia on the coasts of the Mediterranean. These rocks, which are found at Gibraltar, near Terruel in Arragon, at Cette, Antibes, and Nice, in Corsica, on the coast of Dalmatia, and in the island of Cerigo, have been formed in fissures of compact limestone, which constitutes the principal substratum of these several places, and are all of similar composition. They consist of

numerous pieces of bone, and fragments of the limestone in which they are included, connected together by a brick-coloured cement. They all belong to herbivorous animals, for the most part known, and similar to those still living in the same places: and they are mingled with fresh-water shells; which lead us to suppose, that their date is subsequent to the last residence of the sea on our continents; though very ancient with respect to us, since there are no indications of such breccia being formed in our days, and some of them, as those of Corsica, contain unknown animals.

Alluvial lands likewise contain bones of animals of the order of glires. Some have been found in the bogs in the valley of la Somme, with the horns of stags, and the heads of oxen; and in the environs of Azof, near the Black Sea. They belong to species of the beaver; some resembling those now in existence, and others of a much larger size. To this animal M. Fischer, who discovered the bones of it, has given the name of *trogontherium*.

Other bones of glires have been found in schists. Some of these species have been described; and M. Cuvier has seen the figure of one, which some have considered as belonging to a guineapig, others to a polecat, but he was unable to determine the genus.

Among the fossil bones of ruminants, M. Cuvier has recognized a species of elk different from that now existing. The remains of it have been collected in Ireland, in England, near the Rhine, and in the vicinity of Paris, in beds of marl of little depth, which appear to have been deposited in fresh water. Other horns discovered in abundance near Etampes in sand, underlying fresh-water limestone, prove the existence of a small species of reindeer, not now to be found. M.

Cuvier has likewise observed remains of the horns of the kid, deer, and stag, not essentially differing from the known species.

Among the fossils of ruminating animals with hollow horns, he has remarked skulls of the aurochs discovered on the banks of the Rhine and Vistula, in the vicinity of Cracoe, in Holland, and in North America. These skulls indeed exceed in size those of the present wild ox, but this Mons. C. ascribe solely to the more plentiful pasture the animal then enjoyed. There is another sort of fossil skulls, varying from those of our domestic oxen only in being larger, and having the horns differently directed. As the ancients distinguished two kinds of wild oxen, the *urus* and the *bison*, may we not conclude, that these belonged to one of the kinds, which, after having furnished our domestic breed, has become extinct in the savage state? while the other, not to be tamed, still subsists in very small numbers in the forests of Lithuania, alone.

Bones of horses and boars too have been found; the former almost always accompany those of elephants, and occur with those of mastodontes, tigers, hyenas, and others found in alluvial soils. In the strata of course, marine limestone on the banks of the Layon, near Angers, occur bones of an unknown species of manatee, with those of a large species of seal, and of a dolphin.

The fossil skeletons of three species of oviparous quadrupeds, persevered in calcareous schists, have likewise been examined by M. Cuvier. One of these, from Oeningen, on the right bank of the Rhine, has been described and figured as the skeleton of an antediluvian man. This Mons. C. has shown to have great analogy with the salamander, and to belong to the genus *proteus*. Another, from the same

place, is of the toad kind, and approaches the *bufo calamita*. The most singular, from the quarries of Altmaul, near Pappenheim, in Franconia, has no resemblance to any species now known. From the length of its neck and head, its long mouth armed with sharp teeth, and its long arms, Mons. C. infers, that it fed on insects, which it caught flying; and from the size of its orbits, it may be presumed to have had large eyes, and to have been a nocturnal animal.

Mons. C. has likewise published a supplement to his memoirs on the fossils of Montmartre, in which he has given a figure and description of an onycholite, more perfect than any before published. It was probably of the gallinaceous order, and comes nearest to the common quail.

Mons. Sage has given a description of some carpolites, or fossil fruits. One was a kernel of a walnut, another apparently a nutmeg, both become limestone. The third was a fruit analogous to the durio transformed into jasper. From observations already made on carpolites, added to these, M. S. infers, that all the fossil fruits found in our climates, are exotic. He next enters into a chemical investigation of the means by which these petrifications have been effected.

Mons. Jussieu has formed a new order of plants under the name of monimiez. He composes it of the genera *ruizia*, *monimia*, *ambora*, and perhaps *citrosma*, *pavonia*, and *anthrosperma*.

Mons. Palisot Beauvois has studied the organs of fructification in grasses with great attention, and thus been enabled to arrange the numerous species in more natural genera than had hitherto been done.

Mons. Labillardiere has made known to us a new plant of the family of palms, of which he has formed a genus under the name of *ptychosperma*, ap-

proaching to the elatas and anecas. It was discovered by him in New England. It is frequently above sixty feet high, yet its stem is not more than two or three inches in diameter. Hence he has given it the name of *gracilis*. It is astonishing, as he observes, that so slender a tree should be able to stand; but in all the monocotyledons the hardest woody part is on the outside, and this structure renders them much stronger, than such trees as have their hardest part in the centre.

M. Lamouroux has presented to the class a very extensive work on marine plants, our knowledge of which was very confined. M. L. not only agrees in opinion with M. Correa, who places the organs of fructifications in the tubercles at the extremities of the ramifications of the sea-weeds, but has described with precision the different parts of these organs. He has likewise observed, that the algae growing on granite, on limestone, and on sand, are always different from each other. M. Decandolle had found, that their interior was destitute of vessels, and formed entirely of a cellular texture: and Mons. L. distinguishes two kinds of cells; one hexagonal, and very long, forming the stalks, and the ribs of the ramification; the other hexagonal also, but with nearly equal sides, and constituting the membranous or foliaceous substance. Those of the former kind he supposes may be analogous to the vessels of more perfect plants. His investigation has led him to form several new genera in this family.

M. Mirbel has continued his researches on vegetable physiology. It has generally been admitted, that the albumen of seed served as nutriment to the young plant after germination; but this opinion required the support of positive observations; and M. Mirbel appears to have removed

all doubt concerning it by an experiment equally simple and ingenious. The embryo in the seed of the onion, as it is unfolded, bends so as to form an elbow, which comes out of the ground, while the plumule and radical remain concealed in it. If a mark be made at this period on the two branches of the germ at equal heights, the spot nearest the radicle will rise alone, if the plant receive no aliment but from the ground. On the contrary, if it be nourished only by the albumen of the seed, the spot nearest the plumule will rise above the other. But if both the ground and the seed concur in the developement of the germe, the ascent of the spots will be nearly equal.

To this paper M. Mirbel has added some interesting observations on the germination of asparagus; and on the manner in which the leaves, at first sheathed like all those of the monocotyledons, become by the growth of the stalk, lateral and opposite, and afterward lateral and alternate.

In another paper M. Mirbel has examined afresh the germination of the water-lily. Botanists had entertained doubts respecting the two fleshy lobes, from between which it springs: these M. Mirbel shows to be cotyledons, and he concludes, that the nelumbium does not differ essentially from other plants of class.

M. Correa, though he considers the nelumbium as a dicotyledon, does not agree with M. Mirbel as to the nature of these lobes. He believes with Gaertner, that they have much analogy with the vitellus; and he compares them to the fleshy tubercles of the root of the orchis.

M. Poiteau has been investigating the germination of grasses. He has observed, that the radicle when it first unfolds itself, assumes the form of a cone, and represents the principal or taproot of other plants; but as soon as the lateral roots have ac-

quired a certain growth, this cone is obliterated and destroyed. As M. Poiteau has made the same observation on many other monocotyledonous plants, we may suppose, that this substitution of numerous and secondary roots for one principal root takes place, because each bundle of fibres in them has its particular root; which naturally reminds us of the observation of M. du Petit-Thouars on the growth of the dragon-tree.

The researches of M. Cuvier concerning fossil animals have generally led to discussions concerning the species admitted by naturalists, and have almost always produced observations tending to promote the science of zoology. Thus in this paper on the osteology of the manatee, considering the organization of the amphibious mammalia, he has been led to separate from the phocæ and morses, the Indian walrus, the manatee, and the species described by Steller. The three latter form one family, distinguished by the absence of the posterior extremities, and by herbivorous teeth. He reduces Buffon's four species of manatee to two, and gives accurate characters of these, which he admits in the different genera.

In another paper on the genus *felis* he gives the osteological characters of the heads of the principal species, and points out one not recognized by modern naturalists. To this he has given the name of leopard, which had become synonymous with panther, for want of a guide to its proper application. It differs from it by its smaller size, and more numerous spots.

M. Geoffray had long ago classified the simix without thumbs, which had before been confounded with the sapajous, in a distinct division, under the name of *ateles*. To these he has now added two species, which

he has figured and described. One which he calls *arachnoïdes*, had been mentioned merely by Edwards and Brown: the other, which he names *encadrée* (framed,) is new. It is black with white hairs round the face.

He has also described two birds; one badly known, the other new. The latter has some resemblance to the *corvus nudus* and the *corvus calvus*; but according to M. Geoffray, they differ sufficiently to form three distinct genera, which he describes under the names of *cephalopterus*, for the new species; *gymnoderus*, for the *corvus nudus*; and *gymnocephalus*, for the *corvus calvus*. The *cephalopterus* is black; with a very high crest, which falls forward on the beak; and a kind of dewlap, also covered with feathers.

The second bird, which, as well as the preceding, is from Mexico, had been imperfectly described by Nattergræve under the name of *cariamã*. From his description, M. Geoffray had considered it as approaching to the trumpeter: but now it is in the museum of natural history, he considers it as a separate genus, to which he gives the name of *microdactylus*.

The tortoisés too have furnished Mr. G. with the subject of an interesting paper. When he was in Egypt, having noticed the tortoise of the Nile mentioned by Forskaol, he was led to form a separate genus of all the tortoisés, which like it have the extremities of the ribs movable, and a soft shell. He names it *trionix*, and has added several new species to those already known. M. Bronghiart, in his valuable work on reptiles, had classed these with his *emydes*; at the same time noticing the characters, that distinguish them from the other species of this genus, the shell of which is complete, and covered with scales. The large soft shelled tortoise of Bar-

tram Mr. G. ranks it in the genus *chelys* of M. Duméril.

In a work entitled a General Monography of Tortoises, M. Sweiger has accurately described about sixty species. It is accompanied with excellent figures, and a copious collection of synonyms.

The class of fishes too is enriched with many new species, by M. Riffau and M. Delaroche. It has been supposed, that fishes, as well as animals, had their peculiar climes: but Mr. R. whose researches were made in the gulf of Nice, has found in the Mediterranean fishes hitherto considered as peculiar to the East Indies, or to the Northern Ocean. Mr. D.'s inquiries have been turned to the depth at which each species of fish naturally lives, the modes of catching them, and the functions of their air-bladders.

Physiological experiments are no doubt those that require most leisure, and patience, yet M. von Humboldt made many very nice observations on the phenomena of animal life during his toilsome and dangerous travels. In a communication on the respiration of the sharpnosed crocodile, he has shown that this animal, notwithstanding the volume of its bronchiæ, and the structure of its pulmonary cells, suffers greatly when deprived of fresh air. It breathes very slowly. A young one, a foot long, absorbed only 12 cubic inches of oxygen in an hour and forty-three minutes.

Since his return to France, M. Von Humboldt, in conjunction with M. Provençal, has made various experiments on the respiration of fishes. It was demonstrated by Spallanzani and Sylvestre, that fishes do not decompose the water in which they breathe, as some had supposed, but abstract the oxygen dissolved in it, or procure oxygen directly from the atmosphere by ris-

ing to the surface. The experiments of Messrs. Von H. and P. have had farther objects. In one of them seven tenches were placed under a jar filled with river water, containing about 244 cubic inches, English measure. After living in it eight hours and half, it appeared from the analysis of the air still found in it, that these fishes had absorbed 8.85 cub. inches of oxygen, and 3.5 of nitrogen, and that 8 of carbonic acid gas had been produced. Hence they inferred, that a considerable portion of the oxygen was not converted into carbonic acid*. When fishes were kept in water deprived of air, they were uneasy, and fell motionless to the bottom in about twenty minutes. When it contained only pure oxygen, they appeared to breathe with eagerness, and expand their gills more. When nitrogen and hydrogen, they kept their gills closed, seemed to dread the contact of these gasses, and died in a short time. Carbonic acid killed them in a few minutes. But they do not absorb oxygen and nitrogen by their gills alone, for the whole surface of their bodies has the faculty of acting on these gasses. After the fishes were removed from the water containing the deleterious gasses, a small portion of carbonic acid was found in it, exhaled probably from their bodies.

M. Provençal also made some experiments on the respiration of different mammalia, after dividing the eighth pair of nerves. Their respiration did not appear to be affected immediately by the operation; but it soon became feebler, the animals gradually absorbed less oxygen, and

* This inference may be just: but we have no proof that the fishes did not retain a portion of carbonic acid; and it appears from subsequent experiments, that carbonic acid was given out by them when oxygen was not present. T.

produced less carbonic acid; and at length their respiration ceased, probably from the cessation of the mechanical action of the thorax. In proportion as the respiration diminished, so did the heat of the animal.

Several members of the class, Messrs. Duvenoy, Delaroche, von Humboldt, Provençal, and Cuvier, have made the air-bladder of fishes, with the functions of which we are not well acquainted, an object of their inquiries. In some fishes this vesicle has a duct communicating with the stomach. In some this duct is wanting, and a peculiar organ of a red colour, and laminated structure, is found. In others, both this organ and the duct occur: and in a few this bladder has its peculiar muscles. The air it contains is a mixture of oxygen and nitrogen, and the greater the depth in water at which the fish habitually lives, the more the oxygen predominates. The want of it does not appear to be detrimental to respiration, though it does to the production of carbonic acid. Tenches, after they have been deprived of it, swim, dive, and ascend in the water with as much ease as before.

Two young physicians, Drs Magendie and Delisle, have tried the effects of the poison of the apas of Java, on several animals, chiefly dogs. They all died in general convulsions, whether the poison were introduced by the blood-vessels or lymphatics, by an insertion into a wound, or injection into the intestines. It appeared to enter the system only by means of the circulation, and particularly to affect the spinal-marrow. It seemed to act but very indirectly on the brain, thus indicating the independence of the spinal-marrow on this organ, not pointed out by dissections. M. Vauquelin, in the course of his experiments on belladonna, found, that

its juice when swallowed by animals, produced in them a delirium exactly similar to that occasioned by opium. Its action on the nervous system was confirmed also by the experiments of Mons. Sage.

The effects of various gasses injected into the blood-vessels has been examined by Dr. Nysten. Atmospheric air, oxygen, nitrous oxid, carbonic acid, carbonic oxid, phosphoretted hydrogen, &c., were not deleterious. Oxymuriatic, ammoniacal; and nitrous acid gasses, acted apparently by a violent irritation of the right auricle and pulmonary ventricle. Sulphuretted hydrogen, nitric oxid, and nitrogen, diminished the contractile power of these parts. Some others* so changed the nature of the blood, that respiration was unable to convert it from venous to arterial.

M. Desessartz read a history of an epidemic disorder, which prevailed in three neighbouring villages at the same time. This epidemic, though originating from the same common cause, was so modified in the nature and violence of its symptoms, by the circumstances peculiar to the different villages, as to require important variations in the mode of treatment in each.

Mons. Sage presented some reflections on the means of remedying the sting of the weever, *trachinus dracho* L., and a description of the effects of the poison of the tarantula, with the means employed to counteract them in Spain. Both these means consist in the external and internal use of the volatile alkali.

Mons. Tenon communicated three papers on practical surgery. In the first he showed, from numerous experiments on dogs, rabbits, and

* This indefinite expression, and the preceding, &c., are the faults of the French reports.

keep, that the denuded extremities of the long bones exfoliate after amputation, before the wound is cicatrized. In the second, he gives the history of a wound in the head, which required trepanning, and was 51 days before it was cured. The third was on ruptures. For the reduction of crural hernie, Mons. T. recommends the patient to be laid on his back; an assistant, standing between his knees, to raise these as high as he can; and another holding the leg of the side affected, to turn the great toe inward, with the knee and thigh, as much as he can. In this position the intestine may be retained by gentle pressure.

Mons. Pelletan has imparted some interesting observations on aneurisms.

Mons. Larrey has pointed out the necessity of having recourse to amputation in cases of gangrene after gun-shot wounds, without waiting till a separation of the mortified part takes place.

The report of the committee on Mons. Yvart's work, entitled, Means of Improving Agriculture by Rotations of Green Crops, says, that it answers its important purpose of showing how land may be rendered constantly productive in the most profitable manner, without being exhausted.

Mons. de Cubiere read a paper on the cultivation of the bald cypress (*le cyprès-chaude*), pointing out the advantages of this fine tree.

Mons. Leblanc, who has resided several years in America, strongly recommends the introduction of the vicugna into the Alps and Pyrenees.

Mons. Poyfere-de-Ceré gave an account of the mode in which the Spaniards wash their superfine wool.

Mons. Percy made some interesting observations on the manufacture of the jars and alecarras, which the Spaniards use for keeping liquors, and for cooling them.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Specification of the patent granted to James Parker, of Northfleet, in the County of Kent, gentleman; for a Cement or Terra to be used in a stucco and other buildings; and stucco-work.

TO all to whom these presents shall come, &c. Now know YE, that in compliance with the said proviso, I the said James Parker, in pursuance of, and compliance with, the said proviso in the said recited letters patent contained, do, by this present instrument, declare that the principle and nature of the said invention and the manner in which the same is to be performed, is described and

ascertained as follows; that is to say: The principle and nature of the said invention consists in reducing to powder certain stones or argillaceous productions, called nodules of clay, and using that powder with water, so as to form a mortar or cement stronger and harder than any mortar or cement now prepared by artificial means. I do not know of any precise general term for these nodules of clay, but I mean by them certain stones of clay, or concretions of clay, containing veins of calcareous matter, having frequently, but not always, water in the centre; the cavity of which is covered

with small chrystals of the above calcareous matter, and the nodules agreeing very nearly in colour with the bed of clay in or near which they are found. These nodules, on being burnt with a heat stronger than that used for burning lime, generally assume a brown appearance, and are a little softened; and when so burnt and softened become warm (but do not slack) by having water thrown upon them, and on being reduced to powder, after burning and being mixed with water, just sufficient to make into a paste, become indurated in water in the space of an hour, or thereabouts. Any argillaceous stone, then corresponding with this description, whether known by the name of nodules of clay, or any other name, is the sort and kind only that I mean to appropriate to my own use in the formation of my cement. The manner in which I prepare and compose this cement is as follows; viz. The stones of clay, or nodules of clay, are first broken into small fragments; then burnt in a kiln or furnace, (as lime is commonly burnt,) with a heat nearly sufficient to vitrify them; then reduced to a powder by any mechanical or other operation, and the powder so obtained is the basis of the cement. To compose the cement in the best and most advantageous manner, I take two measures of water and five measures of the powder thus described; then I add the powder to the water or the water to the powder, taking care to stir and beat them during the whole time of intermixture. The cement is then made, and will set, or will become indurated in ten or twenty minutes after the operation has ceased, either in or out of water. But although I have described what I think the best proportions for the composition of the cement, it is expressly to be understood that these, and all other

proportions, are to be included within the meaning and purpose of this specification, but that no other proportion will produce so strong a cement in so short a time as those I have here pointed out. And also that I occasionally burn and grind and mix the powder before described with lime and other stones, clay, sand, or calcined earths, in such proportions as may be necessary and useful for the purposes for which the cement is intended to be applied, always observing that the less water is used the better, and the sooner the mortar or cement is used after being made, the stronger and the more durable it will be.

A detail of experiments to ascertain the daily quantity of brown Muscovado Sugar necessary to fatten Sheep; to show its effects and value when so applied; and to demonstrate what substance or substances, sufficiently cheap, might be mixed with it, so as to prevent its application to common uses, and yet render it not unpalatable nor pernicious to animals which feed upon it. Submitted to the board of Agriculture, by the Rev. Dr. Cartwright.

On this ground, therefore, it is presumed that the following conclusions, drawn from the facts which I have now the honour to lay before the board, may be justified.

First. That sugar may be given with great advantage to sheep, if not confined; especially if they have access to green food, however little that green food may be in quantity.

Secondly. That sugar may be given to them with every prospect of a beneficial effect, in the quantity of four ounces *per* day to each sheep.

Thirdly. That sugar, supposing it to be purchased at four pence *per* pound, (which it might be if duty

free,) would at the rate of four ounces per day, be paid for in a return of flesh, exclusive of the advantage of expeditious feeding, and the benefit to be derived from the manure.

Fourthly. That six ounces per day to each sheep exceeds the maximum that can be given with the best advantage: (this, it is obvious, applies to the middle-sized sheep only, such as those on which I tried the experiment. It is probable that six ounces might not be too much for some of the larger breed of sheep, as four ounces might be too much for some of the diminutive breeds).

Fifthly. That the advantage of stall-feeding sheep altogether upon sugar and dry food, of whatever nature that food may be, is extremely problematical.

Thus have I candidly laid before the board the result of a long series of experiments which, it will be perceived, have been prosecuted with unremitting attention and, in consequence of my being particularly circumstanced, at no inconsiderable expense and trouble for the space of four months and upwards.

Should any gentleman be disposed to repeat these experiments, having within himself all the requisite conveniences for such an undertaking I cannot but persuade myself, though he will certainly attain his object more cheaply and readily than I have done, that his conclusions will confirm the general accuracy of mine.

Observations on Luminous Animals;
by J Macartney, esq.

(Concluded from page 325.)

I shall terminate this paper by an enumeration of the several conclusions, that are the result of the observations I have been able to make upon the phenomena of animal light.

The property of emitting light, is confined to animals of the simplest

organization, the greater number of which are inhabitants of the sea. The luminous property is not constant, but in general, exists only at certain periods, and in particular states of the animal's body. The power of shewing light, resides in a peculiar substance or fluid, which is sometimes situated in a particular organ, and at others diffused throughout the animal's body. The light is differently regulated, when the luminous matter exists in the living body, and when it is extracted from it. In the first case, it is intermittent, or alternated with periods of darkness; is commonly produced or increased by a muscular effort; and is sometimes absolutely dependant upon the will of the animal. In the second case, the luminous appearance is usually permanent, until it becomes extinct, after which it may be restored directly by friction, concussion, and the application of warmth; which last causes operate on the luminous matter (while in the living body), only indirectly, by exciting the animal. The luminous matter, in all situations, so far from possessing phosphoric properties, is incombustible, and loses the quality of emitting light, by being dried, or much heated. The exhibition of light, however long it may be continued, causes no diminution of the bulk of the luminous matter. It does not require the presence of pure air, and is not extinguished by other gasses.

The luminous appearance of living animals is not exhausted by long continuance, or frequent repetitions, nor accumulated by exposure to natural light; it is, therefore, not dependent upon any foreign source, but inheres as a property, in a peculiarly organised animal, substance, or fluid, and is regulated by the same laws which govern all the other functions of living beings.

The light of the sea is always produced by living animals, and most frequently by the presence of the medusa scintillans. When great numbers of this species approach the surface, they sometimes coalesce together, and cause that snowy or milky appearance of the sea, which is so alarming to navigators. These animals, when congregated on the surface of the water, can produce a flash of light, somewhat like an electric coruscation. When the luminous medusæ are very numerous as frequently happens in confined bays, they form a considerable portion of the mass of the sea, at which times they render the water heavier, and more nauseous to the taste; it is therefore advisable to always strain sea-water before it is drunk.

The luminous property does not appear to have any connection with the economy of the animals that possess it, except in the flying insects, which by that means discover each other at night, for the purpose of sexual congress.

New Method of applying the Filtering Stone for purifying Water; by Mr. William Moul, of Bedford-square.

He objects to the old method of fil-

tering by putting water into the filtering stone, because the dirt falls to the bottom, and fills up, or chokes the pores of the filtering-stone, so that the stone requires frequently to be cleaned with a brush and sponge, to allow the water to pass, after which the water passes through the stone in a muddy state for two or three days; it likewise requires to be frequently filled, and as it empties less water, comes in contact with the stone, and therefore a smaller quantity, in such a state, can only pass through. Likewise a filtering stone used in the common way soon becomes useless, from the filth insinuating itself into the internal part of the stone, out of the reach of the brush.

In the method he proposes and practices, the filtering-stone is placed within the water to be purified, which presses upon the outside of the filter, and the stone does not require to be supported in a frame as it needs only to stand within the water-cistern; it will thus filter, in an equal time, double the quantity of water procured in the common mode; it fills itself, and requires no cleaning. He has upon this plan used one for more than three years with great success.

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MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

A CATHOLIC dinner took place on the 7th inst. given (as is expressed in the cards distributed) "to the friends of toleration." This appears a strange term to be adopted by the Catholics themselves, thus bestowing on their friends, what they borrow from the vocabulary of their enemies. Toleration! Liberty by sufferance! what is it but persecution affecting to look gracious; disclaiming the will to persecute, but retaining the power. Toleration! why, Dr. Duigenan, Sir R. M'aggrave, and Mr. Giffard (the three headed Cerberus of extra-constitutional loyalty,) these kind men will profess themselves to have been always friends of Toleration. These men and such as these, who have no other idea of the constitution, than of a city corporation, of which they might grant a freedom to half a million, and tolerate four millions, that is, suffer them to enjoy their civil liberties without a particle of political power to give these liberties security or momentum.

In thus inviting the friends of toleration, the idea, perhaps, was to comprehend the different grades of party, to include the warm, and lukewarm, and to gather around the circumference of one table, all the patriotism, and also, what has been happily called, all the *parrotism* of the country. We have often thought the Catholics were too anxious for unanimity at their meetings, and too careless about preserving it, after their meetings. Indeed the unanimity of large assemblies is generally to be distrusted. It is often nominal and superficial. It is often the effect of influence, timidity, or passive acquiescence, not the unanimity of convinced understanding, not the acclamation of the

heart. Catholics are disposed so to prize, we dare not say idolize, an unity and identity of opinion, in matters of religion, that they are led by natural associations to aim at the same unanimity in political measures. Their numbers, their party views, their personal motives make it impracticable. All indeed conspire in a wish for emancipation. But the Catholic body, like other large bodies of men, beneath a smooth and uniform covering, contains discordant portions, passions, and parties.

An aristocracy of rank rather than talent, respected from habit, and a sort of feudality of attachment, a certain reverential feeling which even those who possess, it feel to be more akin to prejudice than principle—a crumbling influence, propping itself by the battress of the castle—a democratical portion, of considerable talent, but little experience, of more zeal, than real activity, and subdivided by the play of various motives—a commercial neutrality vibrating, individually, between the two former parties, and a malleable mass which each party wishes to model and shape to its own purposes.

Yet let us acknowledge, and it is with a conscious shame we, Protestants, do it, that in this mass, heterogeneous as it certainly is, endeavouring to work its way and attain its object, sometimes by a strait and erect motion, sometimes by a method more serpentine; one while, by the obsequiousness of its aristocracy, and the humility or humiliation of its hierarchy, at another time, by the ardour and manly erectness of its democracy, as if recollecting how God made man ("Deus fecit hominem rectum" Eccles.)—Yet let us

acknowledge, notwithstanding some hesitation, and slight versatility of conduct, that, in the CATHOLICS OF IRELAND all the public spirit, which remains in this island, seems to have found a refuge. They are the forlorn hope of the country.

The Catholic body ought not to indulge in private or personal resentments. As for Mr. Pole, it would have been enough, in some of their addresses, to have imprisoned him in a contemptuous parenthesis, and left him there, to the gaze of posterity.

Their dinner seems to have been given by the democratic party, and several good speeches were made on the occasion. Too little notice seems to have been taken of that anchor of political salvation in the tempest of these times, an adequate reform in the representation of the people. The Catholics ought, in a manly manner, to embody themselves with this question, nor affect to stand aloof from it, as if fearful of disclosing, by anticipation, such opinions—what opinions? why, such as will alone render them at all, or at any time, *worthy*, of being adopted into the fulness of the constitution. The emancipation of the Catholics WITHOUT A REFORM, we will not hesitate to say, would, in no long course of time, only tend to accumulate the mass of political corruption, by a gradual, and perhaps irresistible conformity to the bad habits and evil practices, which are become almost a second national nature, and by that evil communication, which, proverbially, corrupts the best manners, and most correct morals.

“Quod cunque infundes, acescet.”

The chalice of the constitution must first be thoroughly washed and purified, or whatever is *added*, will partake of the pollution. Putrefaction is itself a fermentative process, and the borough-mongering system,

while suffered to remain, is, itself a septic ferment, that will assimilate all the surrounding parts to its own quality. Let it be some comfort to the Catholics, that in their present situation, they form a sounder and healthier part of the political population, than if they were more intimately incorporated with a morbid constitution. They would, probably, soon catch the malady, and the supposed blessing, might turn out an added misery to the country.

Indeed we marvel much, that the usual policy of ministry has not by this means, not merely evaded, but annihilated the Catholic importance as an instrument of opposition. Why not first emancipate, and then *assimilate*; first adopt, and then *adulterate*; thus turning, by well-known and efficacious means, the supposed advocates and allies of reform, into an additional check and counteraction, in the day, when every assistance will be wanting. Better than this, will it be, to remain—AS YOU ARE, disappointed but not desponding, not self-abased, not the panders of placeman or pensioner, but in your political incapacities drawing a noble resource from the pride and prerogatives of humanity.* Better we say, to remain *as you are*, than to be handed over among borough proprietors, like so many cattle from one grazier to another, and to gain a shadow of political importance, at the price of your personal honour, and the sacrifice of every feeling either patriotic, moral, or religious. Better than to fall behind either party leader, either Mr. Perceval the pledged antagonist of your claims, or Mr. Pons-

* “Place us wherever you may chuse,” said the Spartans; “there we shall endeavour to behave, like brave men.”—Thus, the Catholics seem to have spoken and acted in the present war.

by, that good humoured opposer of the union. Read the late address of the city of Westminster to the Prince Regent as authenticated in the gazette—and be satisfied. The period of Catholic emancipation, and that of parliamentary reform will, and ought to be simultaneous. The national redemption must be complete.

THE PRINCE REGENT notwithstanding he acts cautiously, and with care not to irritate a desperate faction, who have long been in the possession of power, appears to manifest a decided predilection for more liberal politics. The energetic address from the inhabitants of Westminster*, has been published in the Gazette, probably by his command, for it has not been the etiquette to publish petitions, stating grievances in that manner. This address contains a most severe censure on ministers, and they could not be expected to be desirous to publish their own disgrace. Let us admit hopes of a sounder and a more liberal system of governing taking place. Liberality may then become fashionable, and the great herd, who take their tone from the court, and applaud every act of government, may readily re-echo sentiments different from the maxims which have characterized the present reign. In this change, the sycophants of power can readily join, as they are not incommoded by any fixed principle, but can

“Change shapes with Proteus for advantages,

And frame their faces to all occasions.”

The Common Council of the city of London, have voted the freedom of the city to be presented to the Regent, in a box of heart of oak, but the court lawyers have discovered, that in his present elevated station, as Regent, he cannot accept of the freedom of any corporation.

In another page will be found an address to the Regent, and a petition to the house of Commons, from the inhabitants of Paisley. Such statements of distress are the best comments on the war, and on the fatal measures which have been pursued. They are strong manifestoes against the measures pursued by government.

The long debates on the subject of the report of the bullion committee of last session, have, as might have been expected, terminated in negating the resolutions founded on this report, which were ably introduced in a clear comprehensive speech by Francis Horner, chairman of the Bullion Committee. But majorities may decide the fate of resolutions, but they cannot control the strong current of events. To the attentive observer, this debate has afforded much matter for reflection, and given some alarming views of our situation. Ministers suffered some matters to escape, which, to the reflecting, show the dangers of the crisis. They all, with the exception of the noted John Fuller, admit that the depreciation of the bank-paper is an acknowledged evil, although in making this important concession, they quibble about the terms.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, and George Rose, are not sufficiently audacious actually to deny the existence of the evil, but they say the present war-system cannot be supported while a foreign expenditure of 24 millions is annually required, if the banks are forced to curtail their issues by a removal of the restriction to pay in cash. True! but why madly continue a system, which has already produced such a state of distress; and which, if persisted in, is rapidly hurrying on to inevitable ruin? Even Mr. Vansittart, the mover of the opposite set of resolu-

* See 242 page of this volume.

tions, admits of the danger of a paper-currency, not founded on specie, if for no other reason, because it is likely to be affected by the fluctuations of public opinion. He candidly admits, that however desirable a return to cash-payments may be, the measure is impracticable, and that a remedy cannot be found, if the present system is continued. When such are the concessions of the friends of the present measures, it may be clearly seen on what insecure grounds our system of fictitious credit stands. It is a most alarming crisis, in which "we go backward, and fall; or forward, and mar all!"

Henry Thornton points out the danger of parliament blindly rushing on, and averting their eyes from a view of the precipices. When risk is to be encountered, it should be met with prospective and deliberative care. The following extract from his speech, affords remarks worthy of attention, and conveys a salutary caution:

"In consequence of an over issue of its notes on account of Government, by the bank of Paris in 1806, there was a run upon it from the country for specie. The bank was embarrassed, and stopt payment. They applied to the French Government; a commission was appointed to examine the matter; who suggested, that the Government should never borrow of the bank in future, because their request was equal to a command, and that they should only issue their notes on short securities. The Paris bank, to remedy its embarrassments, diminished the circulation of its notes, and in the course of three months returned to its payments in specie. The merchants and manufacturers in Paris suffered for a time from a limitation of the discounts, but it was thought better to suffer this evil,

than to encounter the still greater evils of a depreciated circulation."

Mr. Sharpe, another of the committee, adduces the example of Hamburgh, Holland, and Paris which although highly taxed, and the two former subject to French extortion, are nevertheless able to maintain their ground, *because they have not recourse to a paper currency.* But Great Britain has gone on so far, as to be unable to recede. Even Wm. Wilberforce, who certainly does not rank as an alarmist, or an opposer of the war system, compares our present state, to that high florid appearance of good health, which often immediately precedes the fatal stroke of an apoplexy.

Sir Francis Boddett, in a manly clear manner, not being afraid to meet the difficulties of the case, and not willing to slur them over to answer the exigency of the present moment, expresses, in the conclusion of his speech, the following energetic sentiments:

"He feared that the system must be permitted to take its course. The inscription on the gate of Dante's Hell, might be applied to it—"You who enter here, leave all hope of returning behind." He saw no reason to believe that the bank would ever be able to recover itself. The Hon. Baronet then adverted to the price of bread as a proof of the depreciation of the currency. The average price of the quarter loaf for 40 years previous to the restriction, was 7½d.; the average price for the subsequent 14 years was 1s. 0½d. With regard to the remedy, he contended, that on the recovery of the currency, it was hardly possible to conceive that the country should be able to pay in sound coin the pensions, salaries, besides the army and navy expenditure, together with the interest of the debt, created with a view to the state of depreci-

on. Considering the rate at which we were proceeding, the interest of the debt would probably, at no very distant period, amount to 50 or 60 millions. How could the people pay this in sound currency? But then it might be said, "what remedy have you?" That was a hard question. He could not save a dying man. But he must blame those who produced the disease, and carried on the delusion, which began with the funding system, and would ultimately prove its destruction. He thought, however, something should be done for the security of funded property, which would be ruined. The country had derived no benefit from this measure of restriction. The bank had derived great profits from it. It had forfeited its commercial character, by becoming a tool of the minister of the day; and as in the South Sea scheme, he thought the estates of the directors ought to be made liable to the losses sustained by the public creditor in consequence of the restriction. That being his opinion, he would not shrink from declaring it."

After a perusal of those prolix, puzzled debates, protracted for so many nights, upon the under valued currency, we are inclined to exclaim, and *is this all* that we had to expect from the assembled wisdom and foresight of so many professional politicians? Just to let things remain as they are, and the deterioration of the circulating medium to proceed, as it is like to do. As for the truth of this depreciation, one is surprised at the puzzle and perplexity it occasioned. It must always be so when axioms are brought under discussion. Our heads will soon grow bewildered, when we are called to argue on the first principles of the understanding, or the evidence of the senses. "Father," said Jack,

just from college, "this fowl on the dish is one fowl, and that there fowl makes two fowls; now as we know from mathematics, that two and one make three, I conclude, by logic, that we have three fowls for our dinner." "Well reasoned, my lad," said the farmer, "so I shall help thy mother to one fowl, I shall take the second to myself, and you shall have the third for your ingenuity." And thus the common sense of the community is attempted to be imposed upon, into a belief that the multiplication of paper is a sign of the increase of national wealth, when in reality its depreciation is an exact exponent of the excess, circulated beyond the internal uses of the country.

"The wealth of a country," as has been well said, "consists in the number of her industrious people, in the wisdom of her laws, in the impartiality of their administration, in the security of her liberties, in the buoyant vigour of her public spirit, and the unsfaded splendour of her national character." This is the true and sterling wealth of a country. Gold and silver is adjudged by the common consent of mankind to be the representative of that wealth, through all countries. It is in universal acceptance; and credit, which may, to a certain extent, be turned into a merchantable commodity, differs from cash, inasmuch as it is liable to the various fluctuations of private and public opinion.

When paper, which is the representation of credit, is poured into circulation, without an exchangeability for cash, (which is its natural restriction), we have then no criterion on which to rest opinion, a frail and fragile thing at best, and which requires every support. Our rule and measure of real value is lost, and cast away, into the rising and falling wave of opinion. Opinion

may be kept up for a time at home, but what will it pass for on the hostile continent? It is the momentum of metallic currency alone, which weighs down one scale in the balance of external trade, and makes the scale, filled with paper, kick the beam. The gold, whose place has been supplied by paper, has been, in reality, sold and squandered for the purposes of war, as if a private gentleman had sold his plate to defray his debts at play, and substituted pewter, for all domestic uses. One party may say he gains, to the exact amount of the plate he has disposed of, for which he must have gotten a value. The other party answers, What value? Is it not all spent? Is not your side-board, and its gorgeous covering, evaporated and gone? What will your pewter pass for abroad? Or how, as affairs go on, will you support a continental war, which must continue to drain out so many millions annually?

It now appears as if the war on the peninsula were *purposely* protracted on the part of the enemy, and that his *invasion* of Britain is really upon her finances, and principally in the immense military expenditure, which, of itself, is fully sufficient to cast the balance of payments so much against us. The nation is thus *manœuvred* out of millions. The different causes assigned by ministry and opposition, all converge into one—the war. The unfavourable rate of exchange, the large import, the restrained export, the high freightage, the rash speculations, the intercommunication of the bank with ministry, the quantity of paper issued, and its consequent depreciation, all resolve into the war as the radical source of these evils, however each party, that of opposition as well as of administration, may wish, and endeavour, in their speeches, in fa-

shionable phrase, to *defeat* the question. “All, without exception,” said Mr. Percival, “are agreed upon the necessity of carrying on the war.”

But is this a necessity of *things*, absolute and uncontrollable by human power, or is it a necessity pronounced by a little, short-sighted, self-opinionated mortal, a necessity of parliamentary *opinion*, a necessity similar to that which has been held forth in every war from the earliest period of history; in fact an occasional necessity which vanishes before a still stronger necessity. Will posterity look upon this necessity with the same eyes of these enraged parties? Will it not be astonished at the flush of intoxication which has succeeded the negative success of the war in Portugal, and still more at the implicit, premature, we hope not presumptuous confidence acknowledged to be placed by a whole cabinet, in a single man, as to the plan and management of this war, on which turns the pivot of the public safety.

Well, if Sancho were to ask, for what purpose all this fighting, this squandering of purse and this waste of human happiness, we think even Don Quixote would have been puzzled with the question. Is it for extinction of jacobinism? why, surely Bonaparte has well performed this service, and for doing so, you ought to be obliged to him. Is it to restore the ancient order of things in France? Why Bonaparte has accomplished this, and with much supplementary despotism, and for this, surely you ought to thank him rather than go to war with him. Is it for the deliverance of Europe? Even Don Quixote must shake his head at that, until Europe, and even the Peninsula will assent to be delivered. Is it for indemnity of the past? Why the longer the war continues,

and the greater the expenditure, the more impracticable will prove such an indemnification. Or security for the future? Are you to ask Bonaparte for that security? No, shame upon them who could ask it. That security rests, and only rests with yourselves, in your own right hands, and in your courageous hearts, resolved to defend your homes to the last drop of blood, and to drive the invader into the ocean. Is it to secure the monopoly of European commerce? Certainly this end has been ill attained, and the mercantile interest have reason to curse the hour that they placed such credit in these visionary speculations. Is it then to gratify our personal animosity against "a Tyrant," "a Monster," "a Corsican," and all the rest of that abusive vocabulary, which the magnanimous minister of a great nation thinks fit, in the assembled senate, to bestow on the ruler of the French people. Is this a legitimate motive for a continuance of war? No, would Don Quixote indignantly answer, by the law of chivalry, and by the honour of a gentleman, no true knight nor even squire would condescend to such abuse, or give countenance to those who thus degraded the character and manners of a generous country. Is it, in fine, the disgraceful predicament of saying—I wish for, and I want PEACE. Why, Bonaparte has said this more than once, in the flush of victory, and will you scruple to do so, at the only time in which a noble minded nation would second you, when you stand upon equal terms with the enemy, or do you defer the declaration to the possible period of defeat and discomfiture, when indeed the necessity would be hard and intolerable? Our political belief is a very summary one. What is the cause of our present public distress? The War. What would effectuate a cure? Peace. How obtain peace? By a

change of ministers, and measures, and by a magnanimous declaration that we wish for and we want a peace on a just and honourable basis.—But Mr. Perceval has got his war loan of 20 millions, and the war minister expects disatches from his brother the commander in chief.

Among the documents much interest will be found in the proceedings of some meetings held in London by the Protestant dissenters who have justly taken alarm at a bill brought into the house of lords, by Lord Sidmouth, to alter the toleration act, the tendency of which under the appearance of making regulations to render the licensing of dissenting teachers more difficult, appears to be to nibble away the inalienable rights of conscience. Lord Sidmouth may be a man meaning well, but weak men of this character, with an itch for meddling, often do much mischief. It is evident from the tenor of his speech, on introducing the bill, that his attachment to the church of England, probably as thinking it the best prop to the state, leads him to look with jealousy and suspicion on all sects differing from it. Church and state, or as they sometimes more grossly term it, Church and King, is a favourite maxim with a large party in England, who are as inimical as the temper of the times will permit to liberty of conscience, and who lie on the watch for any plausible opportunity to abridge it. The real motives of this party are founded in political intolerance, and a selfish exclusion, covered under a mask of dislike to those they call sectaries on account of their religious opinions. But a desire to possess political power, not a zeal for religion, is their actuating principle.

The disgraceful persecution of Dr. Priestley at Birmingham stands on record as a sample of the madness rea-

dy to be infused into the mob, if a fit occasion presented.

Instigators, and incendiaries of high note are not wanting. Yet we would not include Lord Sidmouth altogether in this class. He probably would not intentionally do wrong. But history points out a strong similarity between the doctrines of high churchism and arbitrary power. The demon of bigotry is only sleeping in his dark den, it would be dangerous ever so little to slacken his fetters. The high prerogative party are hostile alike to Dissenters and Catholics.

We have no objection to see the dissenting clergy roused to defend their rights. We never contemplated their alliance with power, with satisfaction. We think they would be much better employed in instilling into their flocks, the spirit of virtuous independence, and in asserting the rights of liberty of conscience, than in joining in a sort of alliance as step sisters to the establishment, cajoled into good humour, by artifice and a show of kindness, while they are secretly mistrusted. The *Regium Donum* is a sop to Cerberus. It may be justly considered as the opprobrium of the dissenting church.

We would gladly see "the *boeing*" at the levee of the minister, or to the Lord Lieutenant's secretary, and the presenting of fulsome adulatory addresses, exchanged for the unbending integrity of men daring to assert the principles of civil and religious liberty.

The Dissenters in England were roused, and showed themselves capable of vigorous exertion, very different from that state of apathy, into which Ireland is sunk. Eight hundred petitions were presented to the house of Lords, against Lord Sidmouth's bill, and in this number was one from some members of the

church of England, among whom were several clergymen. The bill has been thrown out, and the spirit of tolerance has, in this instance, had a complete triumph. The Archbishop of Canterbury spoke in favour of liberty of conscience, and gave up the business with tolerable grace. We have in the petition from the members of the church of England, just alluded to, another proof, that the low party in the church of England contains many men of genuine moderation. It is pleasing to contrast the Tilletsons and Hoadlys, and a host of the low party, with the advocates of bigotry in religion, and of arbitrary power in politics, who have occasionally appeared nominally under the external banners of the same church. To render to all the due meed of praise, or the censure of demerit, is the duty of the historian, or the more humble recorder of the passing events of the day, to whom impartiality is an impressive obligation. "Well pleased to praise, but not afraid to blame."

On the subject of religious freedom whether regarding Catholics or Dissenters, there is one measure of justice. Toleration is not a term sufficiently expressive. To tolerate implies the granting of a boon, and as if there existed a previous right to grant or withhold. Let us say with Mirabeau, "the communion of every man with the Most High is independent of all political institution. Between God and the heart of man what government dares to interfere."

It is said a meeting has been held in London, to invite the delegates from the Irish Catholics, to a public dinner on the 7th of next month. We hail the auspicious omen! more especially as the Earl of Moira, the friend of the Prince, it is said, will

preside on the occasion. A victory over prejudice, by holding out the cup of hope to a people, whose claims are founded in justice, will do more to tranquillize the empire, and add essentially to its strength, than ten victories gained in the peninsula.

It is curious to observe the versatility of statesmen. The Irish brewers, in a contention with the distillers, who shall have the greatest share in making the Irish drunk, have petitioned parliament to raise the duty on whiskey. Henry Grattan, and some others of the Irish popular members, appear to have recovered their senses, and now speak against the measure of the low duty on spirits adopted last session. Let it be remembered, however, that last year, regardless of the injury to morals, they supported the measure from a selfish regard to the landed interest, and it was matter of regret to behold men who some years ago had laboured to remove temptations to intoxication out of the way of the people, then join in an arrangement likely to produce a contrary effect. The consequences, as were foreseen, have been distressing. Drunkenness has been increased in Ireland in a very great degree; so also has disease, the almost constant attendant of intoxication. It appears that in last year the number of admissions of patients into hospitals has been doubled, and the deaths in them trebled. For all this suffering, how poor is the compensation! But even in this plan, the landed proprietors were outwitted by the schemes of our Irish financier. He represented that lowering the duty on spirits, would aid the landed interest, by securing a better market for grain. They became dupes, and acquiesced in laying on the 50 per cent. additional window tax to make up the deficiency in the revenue. Such a plan appeared plau-

sible to the landed proprietors to throw some of the burden more off their immediate concerns, on the community at large. But mark the progress of deception and cullibility. Our Irish minister will probably graciously condescend to allow the duty on spirits to be raised, but the additional tax on windows, notwithstanding, remains.

The revolution in Spanish America, including Mexico and the Spanish settlements in North America, as well as at Buenos Ayres and other places in South America, appears to be making progress. Although the accounts are generally obscure and contradictory, yet sufficient is known to lead to the expectation that the cause of the natives will finally triumph over those, who born in Spain, and going over to rule the settlements in America as provinces, had become the monopolizers of power, and often in the arrogance of office had abused their delegated authority as the corrupt representatives, of a corrupt and feeble government at home, such as was administered by Charles IV. and his infamous minister Godoy, and at present by the bodies which have from time to time ruled Spain, under the fiction of Ferdinand VII.

Amid the distractions of Europe, and although scarcely at present noticed, in the superior interest attached to concerns nearer home, this revolution may probably at no distant period produce important events on the future course of empire, and tend to enlarge the sphere of human felicity. To contemplate the continent of America emancipated from European influence affords a grand subject for contemplation.

Massena's retreat has inspired such unbounded confidence, that intoxicated by the sudden reverse, many are carried away with the general current, and form high expectations

of a continuance of success. If a temporary success encourage extravagant hopes, and diminish that small portion of sober-mindedness which remained with us, the imagined victory may lead to future defeat, and incapacitate us from being prepared to bear with fortitude, a reverse. Massena in the different skirmishing parties, appears not to have sustained any material defeat. From a want of provisions, he retreated, but in good order. The timid fancy they see security in those temporary advantages, and those who "through fear die a thousand deaths," flatter themselves that their security is increased by war being kept up at a distance from them, but this hope may be delusive. By the campaigns in Spain and Portugal, we may calculate on the good effect of blood and slaughter at a distance, and coldly contemplate the destruction of other countries, while our dear speck of earth is safe, and our selfish interests are supposed to be promoted by the sufferings of others, and by the war being kept at a distance. Fighting on the continent may train soldiers to greater expertness, and more skill in the military art, but the multitudes, to use Windham's unfeeling phrase, *killed off* in these unprofitable continental expeditions "will not rise to fight again," when the great contest for national existence, and for independence may as most likely it will eventually, be on our own shores. To speak merely on the principles of cold calculating policy, the British empire with its comparatively small population of 15 millions, when opposed to the great population of France and its dependent tributary nations, should be economical of human sinews, and not be lavishly prodigal of those resources, on which the country may have ultimately to depend in its

last exigency. Foreign expeditions are rapidly exhausting the financial strength of Britain. Look back at the past, and awfully anticipate the future!

From a calm contemplation of all these circumstances some have formed a decided judgment, that continental expeditions, including the exertions in Spain and Portugal, instead of strengthening for the future contest, have materially wasted the resources of Great Britain, and are likely to hasten the dreaded catastrophe. In this view the confidence of fancied security from a small alteration in the appearance of things in the peninsula may increase the danger, by blinding the people to their best interests, and disposing them to yield an easy credit to the plausible arts, by which the war-faction may seek to retain or extend an influence over public opinion.

Another great victory over Massena is announced, whether it will turn out, as other victories pompously proclaimed, as at Vimeira and Talavera, can only be known by subsequent events. If the most favourable terms of retreat are allowed by convention to the defeated army, or if there is a necessity to abandon the sick in the hospitals, men of plain sense, free from the mania of implicit belief, will pronounce such a victory to be a defeat in disguise, or to have all the effects of a real defeat. Much trick is used by the stimulus of false and exaggerated news, variously fabricated, to keep up an attachment to war in the people. Scheme after scheme has been defeated, expeditions have been totally unsuccessful, or if partial victories have been achieved, they have been attended with immense waste of human life, and an immoderate expense of money, but the results, after all the boastings, have

not been beneficial; and no brighter prospects open to a burdened people, who yet suffer themselves to be misled, by their credulity, their fears, and their avarice. For while the nation is sinking, and the public good little attended to, many are making private gains in one way or another, from the continuance of the war. Hence the ever repeated fallacy of magnifying trifling advantages, and glossing over defeats and mismanagements; and the ready belief given to such soothing delusions. This disposition may assume, the false name of patriotism, but sordid self interest will be found its basis.

Rumours of a rupture between Russia and France are kept afloat, and hints are thrown out of the co-operation of a British fleet in the Baltic, in certain previously concerted plans. If these are not idle rumours to gratify the insatiable desire for news, and to keep up systematically the popular delusion and fondness for war, we may have once more to lament the fatal propensity of restless, ambitious, but weak statesmen to stir up fresh broils as impotent as their former schemes; and to read the defeat of another continental coalition in the sufferings and miseries of the dupes to such injudicious politics, and in the further aggrandizement of that power for the overthrow of which such impotent and rash plans are unwisely concerted, and bunglingly executed. Coalitions of nations with separate interests, contain the seeds of their speedy dissolution.

Sweden without feeling much interest in a change of rulers, is likely, at least for the present, to continue quietly under the Lieutenant of Bonaparte, and to permit Bernadotte to exercise the powers of royalty, now as Crown Prince,

and heretofore as King. Denmark will probably be long kept in opposition to British interests, by the recollection of bitter injuries, and poor Prussia, too feeble to move, must reap the fruits of her rash and imbecile councils, in joining a fatal and ill-planned coalition. Russia intent on spoiling Turkey, is not likely to be diverted from her subserviency to France, as the price of being permitted to receive such a part of the plunder, as the haughty Napoleon may condescend to allow to a power confessedly so feeble as Russia, the brute force of whose widely scattered population, sunk in barbarism, and possessing only the lowest grade in civilization, is unable to cope with the more polished nations of Europe. Opposed to Turkey, as still more feeble, and degraded by want of intellectual cultivation, she may possess relative power, but in conflicts with Europeans, her capabilities are extremely small. From this view of the Baltic powers, little co-operation can be looked for by England.

Matters appear to be gradually verging to hostilities with the United States of North America. As the hostile orders in council, to prohibit commercial intercourse by American vessels bringing their produce to these countries, expected as a measure of retaliation, has been hitherto delayed, it will probably not take place, till the result of the new Envoy's mission to America is known, but without a change of system on the part of our rulers, war is considered by some as inevitable.

In the mean time a mode of retaliation is adopted, which, it may be feared, will throw an additional obstacle in the way of an amicable settlement. Higher duties are proposed to be laid on American produce brought in American vessels: in Britain on timber, cotton-wool, and pot

and perquisites—in Ireland on the two former, and on tobacco. Besides these, and an additional duty on hemp, we are to have no fresh taxes in this country. The one on tobacco will be severely felt by the poor. Ireland has borrowed 7½ millions, but England becomes security for 4½, and for this borrows great credit is taken for liberality, while the fact really is that from the failure in the duties on the imports of last year, and the unproductiveness of the new taxes, this country manifests that it is incapable of bearing additional taxation at present, or that new taxes could be laid on with any prospect of increasing the revenue. The duty on cotton-wool will be severely felt both in Great Britain and Ireland, in the present depressed state of the cotton manufacture*. But it is a continuation of the unwise policy, which produced the brothers in council. In the eagerness to annoy neutrals, great injury may be done to our manufacturing interests.

The Duke of York has been restored to the office of Commander in Chief. It is to be regretted that the Prince Regent has contravened that popular sentiment which occasioned the Duke formerly to resign after the investigation of his conduct in parliament. But such often is the effect of the intrigues of courts, and of the compromises for gaining support. How often is honour thus hartered!

* We bear the duty on cotton-wool is abandoned.

The following subscription has been received since our last for PETER FINNERTY.

Richard Talbot.....10s.

DOCUMENTS.

SMITH, MAYOR.

A Common Council, holden in the Chamber of Guildhall of the city of London, on Thursday the 2d, Day of May, 1811.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY,

That the freedom of this city be present-

ed to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, in testimony of the deep and grateful sense entertained by this court of his public virtues, and amiable and endearing qualities; of the purity of his constitutional principles, exemplified by his unvaried attachment to the rights and liberties of the people; of his exalted forbearance and moderation during the whole of his Royal Father's afflicting indisposition; and of his rare self-denial in refusing to increase the national expenditure, by any temporary addition to his state and dignity as Prince Regent; thus practically illustrating the union which must ever exist between the feelings of a great and patriot Prince, and the happiness of a free and loyal people.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That his Royal Highness be requested to honour this city by his acceptance of the said freedom.

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY, That the copy of the said freedom be presented to his Royal Highness in a box of British Heart of Oak.

WOODTHORPE.

PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

Declaration of the Livery of London, May 3d, 1811, at the public Dinner.

"That towards the close of the unjust and calamitous war with our fellow-subjects in America, it was declared by the Livery of London in common hall. 'That our excellent constitution appeared in no circumstances more grievously defaced, than in the unequal representation of the people in parliament, which continual experience had proved to be no less productive of calamities to this country, than predatory to the rights of Englishmen.'

"That about the same period similar declarations were made by numerous public meetings throughout the country as well as by the most disinterested and enlightened statesmen of the time, who predicted a continuance and an increase of national grievances and calamities, unless a speedy reformation were effected in the representation of the people in parliament.

"That since that period, the same hateful system has been pursued—the same pernicious influence exercised and widely extended—frequent and daring violations of the law and constitution committed—the best blood and treasure of the nation profusely wasted—the public burdens enormously increased—a depreciated paper currency established, which has

caused the current coin of the realm to disappear—an army of placemen, pensioners, contractors, jobbers, surveyors, inspectors, assessors, tax-gatherers, their agents and emissaries, created and enriched, whilst the great body of the people have been pining under grievous and unequal taxation. We have also seen great public delinquents and violators of the constitution escape with impunity, whilst those who have dared to expose public abuses, and to resist innovations of the constitution, have been pursued with unrelenting rigour.

"That such has been the progress of corruption in the representation of the people, that we have seen it openly avowed in the house of commons itself; and when Lord Castlereagh and the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, both ministers of the crown, were charged with being concerned in corrupt traffic for seats in that honourable house, they were defended and inquiry rejected, upon the alleged notoriety of such practices, which were there declared 'to be as notorious as the sun at noon day'; practices, as the speaker of the honourable house declared 'at the bare mention of which our ancestors would have started with indignation'."

"That nothing can more strongly demonstrate the corruption and degeneracy of parliaments, than that during the whole course of our late wars, notwithstanding the waste of blood and treasure, the many unfortunate and destructive expeditions—the numerous failures and disasters we have experienced—no want of confidence has appeared—no symptom of distrust manifested—no effectual inquiry instituted—but that, on the contrary, a determination has appeared to stifle or evade every attempt to promote investigation, or to reform abuses—and we have seen the same unlimited confidence alike extended to all administrations.

"That by the predominating influence of a borough faction, every constitutional check and controul upon ministers appears to be completely lost; and we cannot but apply the expression of Lord Balthurst to Dr. Swift, 'That were his Majesty to appoint his body-coachman prime minister, the wheels of government would move just as easily as with the sagacious driver who now sits upon the box.'

"That nothing short of a full, fair, and free representation of the people in parliament, can afford a remedy for public

grievances, restore our constitutional rights and effectually secure his Majesty's crown and dominions.

"That we will use every constitutional means to obtain this essential end; and we do hereby pledge ourselves, and invite our brethren of the Livery, as well as all the electors of the United Kingdom, to vote for such candidates only as will engage to support every measure which has for its object a reform in the representation of the people in parliament."

PAISLEY MEETING.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town and suburbs of Paisley, held pursuant to advertisement, March 30, to take into their consideration the propriety of addressing the Prince Regent, and petitioning the House of Commons, on the present calamitous state of the country, the following address and petition were agreed to:—

TO THE PRINCE REGENT.

The dutiful Address of the Inhabitants of the Town and Suburbs of Paisley.

"May it please your Royal Highness,

"With the most sincere attachment to your person and interests, as will appear from the undisguised and upright sentiments impressed upon our hearts,

"It is with the most lively emotions of sympathy, we commiserate your Royal Highness on the late melancholy event, which induced the two houses of parliament to place in your hands the reins of government.—At the same time we observed, with marked indignation, the conduct of the servants of the king, your father, who annihilated (in your person for a time) some of the distinguished prerogatives of the royal power, derogatory to your character as a man, and highly injurious as a Prince—restrictions which we consider as altogether unnecessary, when we reflect on the much admired filial affection, and other amiable virtues, of your Royal Highness.

"Thoroughly convinced that your mind is actuated by every principle which is truly noble, generous, and good; and that your superior wisdom hath preserved you free from the fetters of any party; we presume to lay before your Royal Highness grievances which, we hope, from your known complaisance, will meet with that attention which the importance of the subject demands.

"The general shock which public credit has received throughout the nation;

and the numerous bankruptcies which have taken place in consequence of that shock, has produced, in our minds, sensations in the highest degree alarming. That confidence, so essentially necessary in a commercial country, is entirely gone, and nothing but impending ruin stares us in the face. Almost every description of society is labouring under privations unexampled in the annals of our history; and numbers who were formerly in very easy circumstances, are reduced to the sad alternative of receiving relief from the benevolence of their more opulent neighbours.

"Under circumstances so afflictive, we observed with the deepest concern, that in a select committee of the house of commons it was reported that the low state of trade has risen chiefly from wild speculations entered into by our merchants to South America; we observed also, that the said report mentions other causes which led to this depression, without explaining them. We are of opinion that no evil can be remedied without particular attention being paid to the origin of that evil; and it appears evident to us, that the accumulated and still accumulating distress proceeds from the exclusion of our commerce from the continent of Europe. We are fully aware that the shutting of the continent against us was the result of our orders in council and the blockading system—a scheme highly impolitic and dreadfully prejudicial to the interests of commerce, and which affords irrefragable proof of the blind policy adopted by an imbecile administration, whose public conduct shews them utterly incompetent for managing the weighty affairs of a great empire.—It was this same system which shut the continent of North America, against us,—and, if still persisted in, will in all probability, end in a rupture with that country, and render our condition still more alarming. We deeply lament the long continuance of the war in which we are involved, carried on at a vast expense of blood and treasure, and daily adding to our already enormous taxation burthens too heavy for us to bear, without the smallest prospect of attaining the end for which it was undertaken. Although these corroding evils prey deeply on the very vitals of the constitution—they are but the effects of a system which, if still persevered in, will in the end destroy that venerable edifice, once the pride and glory of Britons, reared by the wisdom and sealed with the blood of our ancestors.—It is a system that

has its origin in corruption—and consigns to infamy all who come within the sphere of its attraction. Its primary object is oppression and injustice; alike hostile to the true interests of the crown, and subversive of the just rights and liberty of the subject. It is the source of wars unnecessary and unjust; destructive to the happiness, and fraught with misery to the human race. Under the influence of this baneful system, the established laws of the realm have been evaded—and in a late instance when two of his Majesty's cabinet ministers were charged before the house of commons with trafficking for seats in parliament, which was offered to be substantiated by evidence at the bar of their house, it was rejected by a majority of its members, because the frequency of the practice "was as notorious as the sun at noon day." Men of great talents, eminent virtue, and superior wisdom, may give a temporary relief, but it is only by a change of system, that permanent and radical cure can be effected; that change can only be accomplished by granting to the people an adequate share in the representation of their country, founded on the eternal basis of justice—fair, free and equal. As a preliminary step to the attainment of these desirable objects, we would hail with joy the dismissal of those men from your councils who are unworthy of your confidence, and the happy selection of men of virtue and talents, who might be the means of restoring the blessings of peace and commerce to a brave, virtuous, loyal, and affectionate people.

"Signed in name and by appointment of the meeting,

"JAMES DAVIES, Chairman.

"JOHN McNAUGHT, Secretary."

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled, the humble Petition of the persons subscribing, residing in the Town of Paisley, and Suburbs thereof,

SHewETH,

"That your petitioners, in consequence of the depressed condition of trade, have of late been subjected to difficulties unknown at any former period. That at present such is the low state of the cotton manufacture, that great numbers have been thrown out of employment, and the wages of those that are employed have in general been reduced two-thirds within the last ten months, so that it requires

great exertions for an individual to procure the necessities of life. How dreadful then must be the situation of a rising family! And such is the general distress, that of a population of about 30,000, upwards of 1200 families, who formerly supported themselves by their own industry, are reduced to the sad necessity of receiving precarious and temporary assistance from their humane and more wealthy neighbours.

"That the present calamity, though first felt by the manufacturers and operatives, has not been confined to them alone, but has extended to almost every rank and profession, involving in ruin many respectable individuals of large capital. Bankruptcy has succeeded bankruptcy to such an alarming extent, as nearly to destroy all confidence between manufacturer and merchant. That the present depressed state of our manufactures is chiefly owing to the exclusion of our commerce from the Continent of Europe, and the stoppage of our trade with America, in consequence of our orders in council, and the blockading system; and until more liberal and enlightened measures are adopted by Government, we cannot see any prospect of an end being put to our just complaints.

"That the present mode of returning members to your honourable house, by such a small part of the population, is the primary cause of the evils which this country labours under, as it destroys that connection which ought to exist between the people and the representation.

"That a full, fair, and free representation of the people in parliament is absolutely necessary, not only to give energy to the state, but confidence to the people, who, being restored to that place, and those privileges in the constitution, to which they are well entitled, would cheerfully submit to the sacrifices they which might be called upon to make, in order to preserve the independence, and promote the welfare of their country. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray, that it may please your honourable house to address his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, beseeching him to dismiss the present ministers from his Councils, and restore unto the nation the blessings of peace. And your petitioners earnestly entreat, that your honourable house would take into your serious consideration the present alarming state of the country, and adopt such measures as may in your wisdom appear best

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calculated to afford relief; and your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Resolved, That the Honourable Archibald Spiers, the county member, be requested to present the address and petition.

Resolved, That the address and petition be published in *The Glasgow Chronicle and Courier*, and in *The Statesman*, London Newspaper.

JAMES DAVIES, *Chairman*.

JOHN M'NAUGHT, *Secretary*.

MEETING OF PROTESTANT DISSENTERS.

AT a numerous and most respectable meeting of Protestant Dissenters of various denominations, and other friends to Religious liberty, residing in different parts of the United Empire, held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on the 15th of May, 1811, SAMUEL MILLS, esq., *Chairman*, the following Resolutions were agreed to:—

1. That this meeting believe that there are at least two millions of Protestant Dissenters in the kingdom of England and Wales, including persons of opulent fortunes, high literary attainments, and active benevolence; that their exertions have contributed to promote industry, knowledge, good morals, social order, and public prosperity; that they are not inferior to any fellow subjects in fervent love to their country, nor in ardent loyalty to their venerable Sovereign, whose early promise to "preserve the toleration inviolate," has made an indelible impression on their hearts, and that any means which might excite their discontent, and enfeeble their attachment, would therefore at any time, and especially at this period, be inconsistent with the national interest, and with wise and liberal policy.

2. That although this meeting consider the right to worship God according to individual judgment as an inalienable right, superior to all social Regulations; and although they have long anticipated a period when all Penal Laws for worshipping God according to their consciences would be abolished, they have been unwilling to agitate the public mind for the attainment of their hopes, and presuming that no persons would in this age venture to assail the Act of Toleration, after the ever memorable declaration of the king, they have been content to regard it with grateful emotions, and to esteem it as an effectual protection from the recurrence of former persecutions.

3. That the persons assembled at this

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meeting have received with great anxiety the communications frequently made by the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Sidmouth, of his intention to propose legislative enactments interfering with the laws relating to Protestant dissenters; that they did hope the applications he has received, and the information communicated, would have prevented his perseverance; but they have learned the disappointment of their hopes, and have ascertained the provisions of the bill which he has at length introduced into parliament with extreme regret, and with painful apprehension.

4. That this bill declares that all the provisions relating to dissenting ministers contained in the Toleration act, and in the subsequent act for their further relief, were intended to be limited only to ministers of separate congregations, and enacts,

1. That such ministers upon being admitted to the peaceable possession and enjoyment of the place of ministers of a separate congregation, may, on a certificate in writing, under the hands of several substantial and reputable householders belonging to such congregation, signed in the presence of some creditable witness, who is to make proof of their signatures upon oath at a general session of the peace, be permitted to take oaths and to sign the declarations previously required; and shall then, and then only, during their continuance as ministers, of such separate congregation, be entitled to all the privileges and exemptions which the former acts had conferred. 2. That any other person who may desire to qualify himself to preach as a dissenting Minister, must procure several substantial and reputable householders, being dissenters of the same sect, and of the same congregation, to certify on their consciences, in writing, to his being a Protestant dissenting minister of their sect, and of the same congregation, and to their individual and long knowledge of his sobriety of conversation, and to his ability and fitness to preach; and that such certificate must be proved as before stated, before he be permitted to take the oath and subscribe the declaration, before he be exempt from the pains, penalties and punishments to which he would otherwise be liable as a Dissenting Minister. And 3. That any person of sober life, and conversation admitted to preach on probation to any separate congregation must produce a certificate from several dissenting Ministers who have taken the oath (to be also proved on oath at a general

sessions,) of his life and conversation, and to their long previous knowledge, before he can be admitted to take the oaths and subscribe the declaration, and that he may then, during a limited period, to be specified in the certificate, officiate as a probationer to any dissenting congregation, and be during a limited period exempt from prosecution and punishment; but neither of the two last mentioned class of persons will be entitled to any privileges, or to the exemptions from offices conferred on dissenting ministers by the Toleration act.

5. That the principle assumed as the foundation of the bill is incorrect. That the Toleration Act authorised any persons to become Dissenting ministers, who conceived themselves to be called and qualified to preach, upon giving security to the state for their loyalty and christian principles, by taking certain oaths, and by subscribing certain declarations, and not only prevented their persecution under laws made in times less favourable to civil and religious liberty, but contending their labours to be of public utility, granted to them exemptions from all parochial offices and other duties which might interfere with their more important exertions—that such construction of the oath of Toleration has been sanctioned by the general practice of a century, and has never been impugned by any decision in a superior court of law—and that if even such construction be incorrect, and legislative exposition be required, such declaratory bill ought to follow the intention of the only act which has subsequently passed; and should extend, and not contract; protect and not impair the relief afforded by the former, ancient, and venerable statute.

6. That the bill introduced into parliament is not justified by any necessity, and will be highly injurious—that is is unnecessary because the evils presumed to result from the abuses of the existing laws by a few persons who may have improperly taken the oaths required from dissenting preachers and teachers, do not exist but to a most inconsiderable extent, and because the extension of all such abuses has been anxiously and would be effectually discountenanced by every class of Protestant Dissenters, and that it must be injurious, because it will introduce forms unprecedented, inconvenient, or impracticable—will render itinerant preachers, students of divinity, ministers on probation, and many persons, to whose ardent piety and disinterested labours, multitudes

are indebted for religious instruction liable to serve all civil offices; and will expose all ministers or the witnesses to the certificates to be harassed by repeated attendance at different sessions, and to capricious examinations and unlimited expense, because by limiting the right of persons to become Dissenting Ministers in obedience to their consciences, it will impose new restrictions on toleration, and because it will create a precedent for future attempts at even more dangerous of fatal experiments against religious liberty.

7. That although most reluctant to interference with political affairs, they therefore cannot regard the present attempt without peculiar sensations of alarm, and that veneration for their ancestors, regard to their posterity, respect for rights which they can never abandon, and the sacred obligations which they feel, will therefore compel them to disregard all doctrinal and ritual distinctions, and to unite, by every legitimate effort, to prevent the pending bill from passing into a law, and to oppose the smallest diminution of the privileges secured by the act of Toleration.

8. That, from the noble declaration of the liberal-minded and illustrious Prince Regent of the Empire, that he will deliver up the constitution unaltered to his royal Father, this meeting are encouraged to indulge a confident hope, that measures so innovating and injurious can never obtain the sanction of his high authority, and that they also rejoice that it has not been introduced by his Majesty's government, and that respectful application be therefore made to them for their wise and continued protection. That a petition to the house of Lords against the bill be signed by all the persons present at this meeting; and that all congregations of Protestant dissenters, and other friends to religious liberty throughout the Empire, be recommended to present similar petitions; and that a committee, consisting of persons resident in London, and in the country, be appointed to effectuate these proceedings, and to adopt any measures they may deem expedient, to prevent the successful prosecution of this bill; and that each committee may increase their number, and that any three members be competent to act.

9. That these resolutions be communicated by the committee now appointed to the committee for guarding the privileges of the Methodists, and to the deputies and ministers of the congregations of Protestant

dissenters of the three denominations in or near London; and that their co-operation and assistance be respectfully invited.

10. That a subscription be entered into to defray the expenses which may be incurred; and that friends to religious liberty throughout the Empire be invited to contribute; and that such subscription be appropriated at the discretion of the committee.

11. That subscriptions be received by Messrs. Roberts, Curtis, and Co. Lombard-street; and Sir James Esdaile and Co. Lombard-street.

12. That Thomas Pellatt, esq. of Ironmongers'-hall, and John Wilks, esq. of Hoxton-square, be solicited to act as joint secretaries to the committee.

13. That the acknowledgements of this meeting be presented to the gentlemen by whom it was convened, for the vigilance meritoriously displayed, and for their prompt attention to every attempted infringement of the invaluable and long established rights of the Protestant dissenters.

14. That this meeting present their assent thanks to the Chairman, for the attachment to religious liberty which he has displayed, by consenting to preside on this occasion, and for the attention and ability which he has manifested.

15. That their thanks be also presented J. Wilks, esq. for the ability and zeal which he has manifested as temporary secretary, and for his eloquent and useful exertions at this meeting.

16. That these resolutions be published in the Newspapers, signed by the Chairman, and that measures be adopted by the committee, necessary to give them requisite publicity.

SAMUEL MILLS, Chairman.

At a general meeting of the Deputies appointed for supporting the Civil Rights of Protestant Dissenters, held at the King's Head Tavern, in the Poultry, London, the 15th of May, 1811,

WILLIAM SMITH, esq. M.P. in the Chair.

Resolved, That liberty of conscience, comprehending the freedom of public assemblies for religious worship and instruction, in such forms, and under such teachers as men shall for themselves approve, is the inalienable right of all; in the peaceable exercise of which they are not justly troublable by the civil magistrate.

Resolved, That this liberty has been generally recognized in the practice of the

British government, since the era of the revolution, under the construction of the statute commonly called the toleration act. Thus whatever may have been the letter of the law, the spirit of toleration has been extended, and large portion of religious liberty actually enjoyed.

Resolved, That we have beheld with great concern a bill lately brought into parliament, designed as appears to us, to abridge such religious liberty, and having a tendency to deprive the lower classes of the community of those opportunities which they have so long enjoyed, to attend public worship and religious instruction under teachers of their own choice.

Resolved, That as deputed by large and respectable bodies of protestant dissenters to attend to their civil rights, it becomes our bounden duty immediately to protest against the principle of such a measure, and to point out the unjust and vexatious operation of the aforesaid bill, as now brought into parliament.

Resolved, That a petition against the said bill, grounded on the principles of the foregoing resolutions, be signed by the members of this meeting, and presented to the legislature.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolutions be signed by the chairman, and inserted in all the public papers.

WM. SMITH, Chairman.

LIBRARY, RED-CROSS STREET,

May 16, 1811.

AT a numerous Meeting of the General Body of Protestant Dissenting Ministers of the three denominations, residing in and about the cities of London and Westminster, regularly summoned to deliberate on the means of opposing the bill introduced into the house of Lords by viscount Sidmouth, which has a tendency to narrow the provisions of the toleration act, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. That the right of peaceably assembling for the purpose of religious worship and public instruction, according to the dictates of our own consciences, belongs to us as men, as Christians, and as members of civil society; that this right ought not to be abridged or controlled by any secular authority; and that we cannot consent to the alienation or surrender of

it without criminality on our part, disrespect to the memory of those from whom we have, under providence, received it, and injury to the best interests of our descendants and successors, to whom it is our duty, as far as we are able, to transmit it inviolate.

2. That this right has been recognized and maintained, from the revolution to the present day, partly by a liberal construction of the toleration act, and partly by the protection of the illustrious Princes of the house of Brunswick; and that it would betray a want of confidence in the favour of our sovereign, in the justice of the legislature, and in the spirit of the times, to submit to any proposed restrictions of this right in passive silence.

3. That as faithful and loyal subjects, attached to the civil constitution of our country, and desirous of contributing to that tranquillity and union on which its permanence and prosperity very much depend, we cannot forbear expressing our regret, that any measures should be proposed which have a tendency, by abridging our liberty as protestant dissenters, and restraining the exercise of social worship among those with whom we are connected, to excite dissatisfaction and discontent at the present interesting crisis; and more especially at a time when we had reason to hope that our liberty would have been enlarged, instead of being restrained; though we are peaceably waiting for the period in which this happy event shall take place, and penal laws no longer have any operation in the province of religion.

4. That the bill now introduced into the house of Lords appears to us inconsistent with the unmolested liberty which we have long thankfully enjoyed; repugnant to our principles and profession as protestant dissenters, who disavow the authority of the civil magistrate in the province of religion; and imposing restrictions which will be in various respects injurious and oppressive.

5. That it is our duty, on our own behalf, and on behalf of our brethren, as well as with a view to the cause of religious liberty in general, to make every constitutional effort in our power for preventing this bill from passing into a law; and that for this purpose a petition be presented from this body to the house of Peers.

DAN. TAYLOR, Chairman.

CITY OF BRISTOL.

At a numerous Meeting of the Citizens and Inhabitants of the City of Bristol, Friends to Religious Liberty, held at the Guildhall, on Monday, the 20th May, 1811, at eleven o'clock.

ANDREW POPE, ESQ. in the Chair:

Resolved unanimously, that this meeting, thankful to benign providence, and to their present beloved sovereign, for the long and general enjoyment of religious liberty under the acts of Toleration, have heard with extreme regret that the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Sidmouth has introduced into parliament a bill, interfering with the operation of those acts, and evidently tending to abridge the liberties of his Majesty's loyal Protestant subjects.

Resolved unanimously, That this meeting most cordially approves and gratefully acknowledges the spirit of firm and legitimate resistance to such bill which prevades the metropolis, and has already manifested itself in various parts of the United Kingdom.

Resolved unanimously, That this meeting being anxious to express to their fellow-subjects their sentiments on this momentous question, as also to contribute to the general efforts that are making in opposition to the design of Lord Sidmouth's bill, do now address a petition to the Right Hon. the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in parliament assembled, praying that such bill may not pass into a law.

Resolved unanimously, That the petition now produced be approved, and left for signatures at this place until four o'clock, and that the Right Hon. Lord Grenville, Lord high Steward of this City, be respectfully requested to present the same to the house of Lords.

Resolved unanimously, That the acknowledgements of this meeting be presented to the Right Worshipful Philip Protheroe, esq. Mayor, for his prompt and polite acquiescence in granting the use of the Guildhall on this occasion.

Resolved unanimously, That these resolutions be printed in the public Newspapers. ANDREW POPE, Chairman.

The Chairman having left the Chair, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to him for his able and polite conduct therein.

PROTESTANT DISSENTERS.

At a general meeting of Protestant Dissenters, and other friends to religious li-

berty, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Friday, May 24, 1811, convened to receive the report of the committee, appointed at a former meeting, to prevent, by every legitimate effort, the successful progress of a bill introduced into parliament by Viscount Sidmouth, relating to the Acts for Religious Toleration,

SAMUEL MILLS, ESQ. in the Chair.

The Committee reported, that by great exertions, aided by the generous sentiments which were universally excited, they had obtained, in 48 hours, 336 petitions from various congregations, within 120 miles of the metropolis, signed only by males, exceeding 16 years of age. That those petitions had been presented to the house of Lords on Tuesday; and that in consequence of the number and respectability of the petitioners, of the attention of his Majesty's Government, and of the assistance of many liberal-minded peers—the motion that the bill should be read for the second time, was negatived without a division, and the bill was consequently rejected.

Resolved,

1. That the report of the Committee is highly satisfactory to this meeting; that loving religion, liberty, and their native land, they rejoice at the speedy rejection of a bill which would have limited the diffusion of religious light, have enfeebled the energy of freedom, and by producing internal dissensions, have inflicted upon their country a dangerous wound: and that they particularly rejoice that this effect has resulted from the zeal displayed by friends to religious liberty of every denomination—and that complete success has conferred on their labours an adequate reward.

2. That this meeting congratulate ministers and other friends resident in every part of the empire, on this memorable result—on the just displeasure they have manifested at the first effort of reviving intolerance—on their consequent attention to the recommendations of the former meeting—on their liberal promises of pecuniary aid—and on the pledges they have given of their determination to resist any encroachments on the Acts of Toleration—and every future attempt to restrict useful and pious teachers from disseminating christian principles, and promoting the salvation of men.

3. That anxious to vindicate Protestant Dissenters from the unmerited imputation

of having acted with insincerity, or from caprice, this meeting declare, that all communication alleged to have occurred between individual Dissenters and the framers of the bill, were unauthorized by any body of Protestant Dissenters; and that any favourable opinions of the measure with such persons might now, have never obtained the sanction of general approbation.

4. That the inconveniences which have long resulted from the want of union and co-operation among Protestant dissenters, for the protection of their religious rights; the necessity which has been demonstrated for the appointment of persons authorised, vigilantly to watch against innovation on their privileges, as well as the constructions which have been put on the acts of toleration; the assumptions by Magistrates of judicial authority in the execution of some of the provisions of those acts, in which their power is only ministerial; the recent violent outrages which have been committed against their meeting-houses and preachers in Suffolk and Kent; and the harsh revival of the intolerant provisions of the conventicle act, in Berkshire, against persons guilty only of assembling to pray to God, induce this meeting to recommend that a society be formed of the ministers of congregations of Protestant dissenters, and of other persons assembling under the act of toleration throughout England and Wales, to defend themselves against these evils;—and that any balance of monies which the committee appointed by the former meeting may eventually retain, be applied by them towards the formation, and for the purposes of such society.

5. That the same committee be requested to prepare the plan of such society, to invite the concurrence of every congregation assembling under the acts of toleration, and to carry any plan they may deem eligible into immediate effect.

6. That as expenses have been unavoidably incurred to an amount certainly great, although unascertained, all gentlemen present at this meeting be requested to subscribe such sums as their liberality may suggest; and that all Congregations be requested to transmit their collective contributions, or individual assistance, to the treasurer, Robert Steven, esq. No. 101, Upper Thames-street; or at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street; New London Tavern, Cheapside; or to Sir James Esdaile and Co. and Messrs. Roberts, Curtis,

and Co. Lombard-street; and Messrs. Down, Thornton, and Co. Bartholomew-lane; without any avoidable delay; and that the committee appointed at the last meeting, be solicited to continue to execute all the powers with which they were then invested, and which they have so usefully employed.

7. That the energetic and judicious exertions of the committee, who have awakened with so much advantage, so laudable a spirit among Protestant dissenters and the friends to religious liberty, merit the highest approbation—and present an example for universal imitation, whenever the smallest infringement of the most extensive toleration be hereafter attempted.

8. That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the Right Hon. Spencer Perceval, for the politeness with which he attended to the representation of their committee, and to every member of his Majesty's government, for withholding from the bill his official support.

9. That this meeting cannot adequately praise the Right Hon. Earl Stanhope and Grey, and Lords Holland and Erskine, for their manly and eloquent opposition to the principle and provisions of the bill, and for their unanswerable defence of religious liberty; but that they be requested to accept their warmest thanks.

10. That his Grace the Duke of Norfolk, the Most Noble the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the Right Hon. Earls Moira, Lauderdale, and Rosslyn, have by their prompt and generous assistance, excited in this meeting the most ardent gratitude.

11. That the committee for guarding the privileges of the Methodists in the connection of the late Rev. John Wesley, having essentially contributed to this important success, by their concurrent efforts and cheerful co-operation, have increased the esteem which this meeting previously entertained for them, and proved themselves to be sincere friends to the best interests of mankind.

12. That this meeting are also grateful to those Clergymen and other Members of the Established Church, who by their strenuous opposition to the rejected bill, have evinced their unfeigned attachment to the cause of Religious liberty.

13. That the attentions of the worshipful the Mayor, and other gentlemen of Bristol, and of the members of several corporations, have made an indelible impression on this meeting, and are entitled to gratitude, permanent and sincere.

15. That this meeting are most happy to renew their grateful acknowledgements to Samuel Mills, esq. the Chairman, for the liberality of principle, and the judicious propriety of conduct, which he has manifested on the present and former occasions.

15. That the able, indefatigable, and disinterested exertions of Thomas Pellatt, esq. and John Wilks, esq. the Secretaries to the committee, have procured for them the universal respect of this meeting and merit the unbounded approbation of all friends to Religious Liberty throughout the British Empire.

16. That these resolutions be communicated to the noblemen and gentlemen to whom they relate, and that they be printed, advertised in the newspapers, and circulated at the discretion of the committee; and that they be also requested to collect and publish all the proceedings which have occurred, that a record may remain to gratify contemporaneous inquiry and to excite and direct the efforts of future generations.

SAMUEL MILLS, Chairman.

PUBLIC OCCURRENCE.

LISBURN LANCASTRIAN FREE-SCHOOL.

The managers of the Lisburn Free-school present their townsmen with the plan and regulations of that institution, and earnestly appeal to their benevolence for its support. The subject of education has of late happily engrossed much of the public attention, and the advantages of disseminating its blessings among the poorer classes of society, have been so clearly demonstrated, not by theoretic reasoning alone, but by practical illustrations*, that any thing further said on the subject, would be superfluous.

The Free-school was opened on the 29th

of May, 1810, with 25 scholars—these in a few weeks increased to 60; and have since further increased to 115, their present number. They are taught reading, writing, and arithmetic (had the managers a school-house sufficiently large, they could, with the same trouble, teach double the number) on the following plan, chiefly the invention of Joseph Lancaster.

The school is arranged into classes—each boy finds his own level, being promoted or degraded, from rank to rank, or class to class, according to his proficiency.

Each class has a monitor, and in some cases an assistant-monitor placed over it to keep all busy, and to teach, or rather see that the children teach each other, the lesson allotted for the class. The monitor wears a small medal by way of distinction, and is in general a smart boy, chosen from the next superior class to that over which he presides: While engaged in teaching, his time is not lost to himself, as some may suppose; on the contrary, it could not be employed more to his advantage: for, by enforcing the attention of others, he imperceptibly acquires a habit of attention himself, which materially advances his future progress.

A register of merit, and a register of daily offences are kept.—In the first, the names of such boys as distinguish themselves by diligence and good conduct, are daily entered: In the second, all accusations against boys, for transgressing the laws of the school, are registered: On the last day of the month, those whose names are found registered a stated number of times in the first, are rewarded with premiums: On Saturdays, those against whom accusations are found in the second, or black-book, as it is called, are tried by a jury of their peers, and punished according to their decision.

The whole school learn to spell from one book; this book is printed in a large

classes of society in London, has been charged in any court of justice with any offence. Opposed to these statements, that of Sir Richard Philips, who when sheriff of London, ascertained, that out of 152 criminals then in Newgate, 101 could not write, and of the remaining 51, 26 could only write their name in a fair hand, and 25 in a scarcely legible hand. Might we not add, that the unhappy victims to offended justice in our own country, almost invariably pour out their last breath lamenting the want of early instruction!

* The benevolent Mr. Rakes, of Gloucestershire, England, has stated, that during a period of 20 years namely, since the first establishment of Sunday-schools in that country, about 3000 children received instruction, and though he regularly visited the city and country gaols, he has only met with one instance of criminality in these 3000 persons. In like manner it is stated by Joseph Lancaster, that he has never yet learned that any one of 4000 children, whom he has educated in the Borough-road school, though taken from the lowest

type, on separate sheets, which are pasted on paste-board, and hung to the wall; round these the different classes assemble in semi-circles, and study their lessons, under the direction of their respective monitors. Thus, all are employed at once. When studying their lessons, if a boy mistake in spelling or pronouncing a word, it is not the monitor's duty to rectify that mistake, but to let the next boy do it, who, if he can, then takes precedence above the other; if he cannot, the next gets a trial, and so on, by which means, the attention of both monitor and pupil is engaged continually—neither can be idle a moment undetected, and constant emulation is kept up.

Another invention of Lancaster's, by which the scholars learn to write and spell at the same time, has also been lately adopted in the Free-School, and found a vast improvement. A class, say of 12 boys, being provided with slates and pencils, the monitor takes a spelling book, and pronounces a word aloud—every boy, then, as Lancaster justly observes, is obliged to listen attentively, to catch the sound of every letter as it falls from his lips; again, they have to retrace the idea of every letter, and the pronunciation of the word, as they write it on the slates. This commands constant attention, and prevents all idleness and talking, while the boys have great practice in writing, without it interfering with their other studies. When commencing to write, the scholars learn to form the written characters, as they had before the printed ones, in sand: afterwards they are provided with slates and pencils, and are classed in pairs, one to write against another—this classification contributes not a little to advance their progress, as it promotes constant emulation; each boy having his competitor beside him, exerts his utmost ability to excel him; and it is pleasing and amusing to observe the eagerness with which they show their copies, and the interest each takes in the decision on their merits.

Arithmetic is also taught on a new plan, invented by Lancaster, by which a boy, who knows nothing more of the science than numeration, can teach a class any rule as well as the most perfect master, and at the same time acquire a knowledge of it himself by teaching.—In this manner several classes are making a rapid progress.—Indeed the progress, that has been made by the scholars in general, fully evinces the excellence of the plan of

tuition adopted—it has surpassed the most sanguine expectations of the managers, and will, no doubt, appear considerable, to all who reflect on the difficulties with which they had to struggle; being till lately (that they were admitted to the use of the Court-house, by the benevolent directions of the Marquis of Hertford) without any proper school-room, proper desks, or fund, except what they advanced themselves, and a few charitable donations presented by visitors to the institution.

Of the present scholars, about 70 had the alphabet to learn when they came to the school:—of these, one class can now read, spell words of five and six syllables off book, and write round hand pretty neatly; another class spell words of four syllables; and another of three syllables, can read easy lessons also, and write large hand on the slate; two classes spell words of two syllables, and are beginning to write; others spell words of five, four, three, and two letters, and print them in sand. Of the boys who had been previously at other schools, none but seven or eight were able to spell words of more than one syllable, when they came to the Free-school:—Of these, two classes now read the Scriptures with tolerable correctness, write round-hand very neatly, and are got as far as addition of money in arithmetic.

A few boys also who distinguished themselves by diligence and proper conduct, are making some progress in English grammar, the elements of which the managers intend teaching such as in like manner render themselves worthy of that distinction.

Rules of the Linsbarn Free-School.

1. As the time the masters can devote to the school is but limited, every boy must attend punctually at the hour appointed, viz.—at 8 in the morning, and 5 in the evening in Summer—and 10 in the morning in Winter:—and in order that offenders against this rule may be promptly known and punished, each monitor shall call over a list of his class precisely at 5 minutes after the hour, and report the names of absentees.

2. Any monitor who, without sufficient reason, shall be absent when he should call over the list of his class, shall forfeit his rank.

3. A trusty boy shall be appointed to make inquiries after absentees, and any boy who shall be three times reported absent, without sufficient reason, shall be expelled the school.

4. Every boy shall have his hands and

face washed, and hair combed, before he comes to school.

5. No boy shall talk to his class-fellow, or make a noise in school.

6. No boy shall presume to contradict or argue with the monitor of his class, but shall yield the readiest obedience to his commands, keeping in mind that they are not his commands, but those of the masters, which the monitor is instructed to deliver.

7. Every monitor shall receive premiums in proportion to the pains he takes to improve and maintain good order in his class: and as it is particularly necessary that every monitor should be a lad of strict veracity, should any one be found guilty of telling a falsehood, he shall be degraded, and rendered ever after incapable of holding that rank.

8. No boy shall quarrel with his school-fellows, call nick-names, or use foul expressions.

9. No boy shall lie, swear, or take God's name in vain.

10. No boy shall play at ball, marbles, kammon, or any such game on the Sabbath-day.

11. No boy shall at any time play at "pitch and toss," attend cock-fights, or engage in any species of gambling, under pain of expulsion from the school.

12. No monitor, assistant, or pupil, shall, on any account, screen boys whom they may know guilty of transgressing the rules of the school; but shall faithfully report the same to the masters, under pain of being brought to trial (on discovery) for disobedience, and neglect of duty.

These rules are in general read and decanted on, on Saturdays, when the Black-book is examined. Sundays, the managers principally devote to giving the children Scriptural instruction, and, without touching on the tenets peculiar to any church or sect, they endeavour to inspire them with a reverent regard for the Holy Scriptures, and every thing that relates to religion; and to impress their young minds with a sense of the continual superintendence of the Deity; His hatred of evil actions; and their certain accountability for all they do or say at a future judgment. And through the blessing of him, in whom is "all strength and fullness," they trust their feeble exertions have not been altogether fruitless. Previous to the opening of the Free-School, the greater part of the scholars spent the Sabbath-day at improper sports in the fields, or in running through the streets,

disturbing the peace of the town, and offending every chaste ear with foul or profane expressions:—now they regularly attend divine service at their respective places of worship; nor would any boy in the school be seen joining in unbecoming diversions during the day. Many boys, too, who were shocking swearers when they came to the school, seem now to have acquired such an aversion to that shameful practice, that if they are obliged to complain of another being guilty of it (which seldom happens, except it be against a new scholar), they will not mention the expressions, but spell or make some allusion to them!

Such are the benefits which have already resulted from this infant institution—benefits which the superintendants doubt not will forcibly plead for its support, with the benevolent and humane. They will perceive from the foregoing statement, that the success of the plan of tuition adopted, principally hinges on the system of emulation and rewards:—of the latter, any that have yet been dispensed, have necessarily been of a trifling nature; but the managers venture to hope, that they will be enabled to present a few of the most deserving of the scholars with some articles of clothing at the commencement of winter; in this particular, many persons who have families, could materially benefit the institution at a small pecuniary expense, by sending donations of their children's left-off clothes, &c. to the school-house, or to either of the managers, by whom they will be most thankfully received.

It is gratifying to remark, that while the male children of the poor have been thus admitted to a share of education, the female are not likely to be excluded. The girl's-school, founded by some young ladies in August last, consists at present of upwards of fifty scholars, who are taught reading and spelling in the Lancasterian manner, and also useful needlework:—and the progress they have made, sufficiently evinces the attention paid to them by their benevolent patroness: several having already got through Lancaster's Spelling-book, though part of their time was necessarily devoted to needlework. What, however, particularly strikes the attention of visitors of this institution, is the extreme cleanliness of the little girls, habits of which necessary and too much-needed virtue among the Irish poor, the ladies judiciously encourage, by appropriating premiums to that purpose.

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AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From April 20, till May 20,

Soon after the last report went to the press, a very considerable change in the weather took place. For nearly four weeks, there were few days in which a good deal of rain did not fall, and it now appears, that in many parts of the country, the occupiers of land were prevented from sowing either oats or flaxseed, until about the 15th inst. when the weather became dry; and even what was sown before the alteration, was so drenched with wet, and dried so suddenly, that in most of the strong clay soils, a crust was formed on the surface of the land, extremely prejudicial to the crops;—where this has been the case, the only remedy is to harrow and roll the ground.

Some will no doubt be prevented from trying this experiment, by a fear of tearing up the corn, but if they are induced to make the trial, they will find it succeed beyond their expectations. A single stroke of a harrow will break the crust, and set the plants at liberty without hurting them, and the roller will fasten any root that may have been a little loosened, and break the crusted earth into dust.

It is more difficult to point out what ought to be done for the relief of the flax, in such a situation. It is a tender plant, and will not come up through a crusted surface; and although the roller may probably break some of the tender buds, yet as there appears no other mode of relief, the trial ought to be made.

Provisions continue at a moderate price, and potatoes in particular have latterly been sold at a rate which will scarcely pay the farmer the original expense.

Wheat has advanced in price, but barley and oats keep stationary.

The grass lands in general look well, and the appearance of the meadows give us reason to expect a plentiful supply of hay.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

That bank-paper, whether of the national banks, or of private banks, is depreciated, is a fact forced on public notice, and virtually admitted by both sides in the late debates in the house of Commons, on the report of the Bullion committee. The admission of the fact is general, although attempts are made to disguise the consequences, and even ministers admit there can be no remedy for what they allow to be an evil, while the present system of immense foreign military expenditure is continued. They think they touch a sympathetic chord in the public mind, when they declaim on the impossibility of carrying on the war, without a large supply of paper-money. If the people were wise, such a mode of reasoning would be the best refutation of their own system, but to a war loving nation, it flatters their prejudices, and causes them to submit to any inconveniences, rather than give up what they have been taught, without proof, to consider as necessary to their safety, if not to their existence as a nation. Thus the mania of war receives additional strength, and is more deeply fixed by the craft used to persuade the nation to their undoing. Stocks may fall, additional loans made, immense taxes laid on, and to these the evils of a depreciated currency is added, but all must be borne, because the people are taught to consider their safety lies in carrying on a war, which has already produced all these evils, and if persevered in, is likely to entail many more. In the sober eye of reason, safety appears to lie in the opposite course, and peace is contemplated as better calculated to produce safety, and add to our strength, both political and commercial.

We have now a new era in the war, and in commerce. To look steadily forward to the consequences, and to calculate the final result, requires a strong head and a cool judgment. It was foreseen by a few of clearer discernment in 1797, at the time of the passing of the act to suspend payments in cash at the national banks, that the consequences which have followed, must take place, but the multitude passed over the signs of the times unregarded. When the national banks were exonerated from paying in specie, the inducement to send out large issues, both for political and commercial purposes, was clearly foreseen. When they were not under an engagement to pay in specie, they were freed from the necessary checks on their issues. Private bankers being bound to pay only in paper of the banks of England or Ireland, were only liable to such checks, as arose from the facility or difficulty with which such

paper could be procured, and by the restriction act, all checks to pay in specie have thus been removed from public and private banks.

Gold Bullion is 80 per cent. above the coinage price. That such a state arises from local circumstances affecting this empire, is evinced by an assertion made in the house of Commons, that the value of Bullion on the continent has fallen in the proportion of 11 to 7. It is also asserted, that the price of silver, although risen in England, has fallen in France, according to the following facts: The old French crown, now no longer a legal tender, has fallen from 5s. to 4s. 10d., while in England, the stamp dollar, intrinsically worth 4s. 6d., has lately been raised from 5s. to 5s. 6d., and even passes higher frequently in private circulation. It has long passed in Ireland as a bank token, at 6s. Irish.

In England, it has been ruled in the court of Common Pleas, that bank notes are not a legal tender to set up against judgment of execution, although both there and in Ireland, a tender in national paper is good against issuing a writ in what is technically called the *mene process*. The legislature has adopted this middle course, well knowing that if bank-notes are made a legal tender, they would speedily share the fate of the continental money in America, and the assignats in France. Bank-notes may answer to pass from hand to hand in all recent transactions, when the depreciation cannot be felt in the short period between taking them, and passing them in other payments. But in all old contracts, the effect of making them a legal tender, would be to benefit the debtors, and defraud the creditors, as payment would be then made in a depreciated currency. Rent is a debt due generally on an old contract, and landlords are creditors under such circumstances. The case requires much consideration, that justice may be done to both parties. It is a hardship on landlords, to take their rents in bank-notes, or at any fixed rate of discount, as the depreciation may increase. Tenants will soon find it impossible to procure guineas, and their case is thus made extremely difficult. It is to be hoped that some compromise, on sound principles, will be adopted by landlords and tenants. The discussion which has so far appeared in the public prints in this country, on this subject, has been all on one side, and consisted merely of declamation on the part of tenants, against landlords. The subject requires dispassionate consideration, and a careful looking to both sides of the question, on broad comprehensive principles of equal justice to the claims of debtors and creditors.

To show how superficially the subject is frequently treated, it may be noticed, that in the commercial report of a respectable London publication, a paragraph has slipped in, probably carelessly selected from the public papers, that "their fabricated paper money is at a heavy discount in France." Such is "the stuff of which dreams are made," and such is the systematic deception practised on the credulity of the public, willing to be deceived in all points which flatter their prejudices. In France, the most authentic accounts state they have not any paper-money in circulation. They smart under the remembrance of their former sufferings during the system of assignats.

Discount on bank notes rates at from 12 to 12½ per cent.

The peace and good order of this country are in danger of being disturbed by an association among the cotton weavers. They have an organization of committees, treasurers and secretaries to control the trade, as a branch of the regular association in England, and Scotland, which is formed into affiliated societies, in those places in which the cotton trade is established. Combinations are of very hurtful consequences, they unhinge the fabric of civil government, and by the habits of insubordination and excesses practiced on those occasions are extremely injurious to morality. Even when they are successful, the losses by waste of time and the expense of intemperance to which they often lead, generally more than compensate the gains obtained by an advance in prices. In this country their present objects appear to be to restrain weavers from taking more than a certain number of apprentices, and to prevent workmen from taking webs to weave at less than the prices they have thought proper to fix. In many parts of the country, great numbers have been thrown out of employment by their being forced to return the pieces in the loom unwrought. In the present state of the cotton trade, high prices cannot be afforded for weaving. It would be surely better to leave trade to find its own level, and if high prices cannot be procured, let weavers individually make the best bargain they can with their employers. - If trade mends, prices of themselves by a fair competition would also mend, and such a mode would be far preferable to the present illegal and injudicious practice of throwing the weavers idle, and by combinations attempting to

control prices, which cannot or ought not be brought under such regulations. Trade should be left free to find its own level.

Exchange, Belfast on London has been generally through this month at 9½ per cent.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From April 30, to May 30.

April 21...Cowslip (*Primula veris*.) Male Orchis (*Orchis mascula*.) Ground Ivy (*Glechoma Hederacea*.) and Nodding Squill (*Scilla amœna*.) flowering.

24...Common Swallow (*Hirundo Rustica*) arrived.

25 Gentianella (*Gentiana acaulis*) Neapolitan star of Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum nutans*.) Barren wort (*Epimedium Alpinum*.) and Cuckoo Flower (*Cardamine pratensis*.)

27...Cuckoo (*Cuculus Canorus*) come and calling...Fieldfares (*Turdus pilaris*) not yet gone, Germander (*Veronica Chamœdrys*) flowering.

29—Virginian Lungwort (*Pulmonaria Virginica*.) Asiatic Globe Ranunculus (*Troilium Asiaticus*.)

30...Harebell (*Scilla nutans*.) Bush vetch (*Vicia sepium*.) Woodroof (*Asperula odorata*) flowering. Geldilocks, (*Ranunculus auricomus*) and Common Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*.) in full flower.

May 2...Several Swallows flying about.

3...Mountain Speedwell (*Veronica montana*) flowering. That curious insect the *Podura aquatica* now begins to cover the surface of the puddles about dunghills, &c. as if gunpowder was strewn over them.

4...Common Broom (*Spartium Scoparium*.) flowering.

8...Narrow leaved Ledum (*Ledum angustifolium*) flowering.

10...Italian Squill (*Scilla Campanulata*.) and Apple trees flowering.

11...Broadleaved Ledum (*Ledum latifolium*.) Marsh Whortleberry (*Vaccinium Uliginosum*.) Yellow Azalea (*Azalea Pontica*.) and Tulip (*Tulipa Gesneri*.) flowering.

13...Reed Bird (*Sylvia Salicaria*) and Black Martin or Swift (*Hirundo Apus*) arrived.

14...Wood Cranesbill (*Geranium Sylvaticum*.) Yellow Poppy (*Papaver Cambricum*) flowering.

15 ..With spotted brown Butterfly (*Papilio Aegeria*.) flying about...Sisfast (*Ranunculus repens*.) and London Pride (*Saxifraga umbrosa*) flowering.

16...Lilacs (*Syringa vulgaris*) flowering.

17...Marsh Eyebright (*Pedicularis Sylvatica*)...Crimson Flowered Peony (*Pœonia peregrina*) flowering, and the White Throat (*Sylvia cinerea*) arrived.

18...Day Lychnis (*Lychnis Diurna*) and night blowing Lychnis (*Lychnis vespertina*)...Horse Chesnut (*Æsculus Hippocastanum*) and First Flowers of the White Water Lily (*Nymphaea alba*) flowering.

19...Hawthorns (*Cratægus Oxycantha*)...Wood Loosestrife (*Lysimachia nemorum*) and Thrift or Sea Pink (*Statice Armena*) flowering.

20...Rape Butterfly (*Papilio Rapœe*) flying about.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From the 20th April, to the 20th May.

April 21,Squally with showers.

22,.....Fine day, showery night,

23,.....Fine day, thunder and rain at night.

24,.....Fine, rain at night.

25,.....Wet morning. Fine day.

26,.....Dark dry day.

27,.....Fine day.

28,.....Very wet.

29,.....Dark dry day.

30,.....Rain in the evening.

May 1,.....Wet day.

2,.....A small shower in the evening.

3,.....Wet day,

4,.....Slight showers.

5,.....Wet day.

6,.....Very great rain. Stormy, producing great floods.

- 7,.....Wet morning, dark dry day.
 8,.....Very wet day.
 9,.....Fine day.
 10,.....Wet forenoon.
 11,.....A slight shower.
 12,.....Wet day.
 13,.....Showery.
 14,.....A slight shower.
 15, 16,.....Fine days.
 17,.....Thunder with a heavy shower.
 18, 20,.....Fine Days

The range of the Barometer has been very little, it was at 29.4, on the 14th of May, and the highest on the 17th and 18th, when it was high as 29.9.

Notwithstanding the general range of the Thermometer in the morning was high for the season, being mostly about 50, it was so low as 42 on the 7th of May, at 8 o'clock in the morning, on the 14th it was as high as 59, and on the 16th as 60, on the 18th, as 63 at the same hour.

The wind has been observed 6 times S.E....7, N.E....2, E....3, S.W....2 S...1, N. so that the prevalence has been easterly.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR JUNE, 1811.

Extracted from Friend's Evening Amusements.

THE Moon is seen on the first under the five stars in triangle of the Virgin, being nearest to the third, and at some distance from her, eastward, is the first of the Virgin.

On the 5th, the Moon is on the meridian at ten minutes past eleven, the second of the Scorpion being directly under her, and Antares below her to the east, and Mars to the west of the meridian, but not so much below her as Antares. During the whole night, therefore, the Moon, with Mars and the stars of the Scorpion, that are not eclipsed by her brilliancy, will engage the attention of the traveller.

On the 10th, the two first stars of the Archer are to the west of the Moon, and the second of the Water-bearer to the east of her, but she is nearest to the former stars.

On the 16th, the Moon passes the fifteenth of the Fishes at two minutes past three in the morning.

On the 18th she rises under Venus; and on the 20th, is new Moon, at two minutes past ten in the evening, but without an eclipse, as she is nearly five degrees in her upright south of the ecliptic.

On the 23d, we resume our observations on the Moon, whose appearance above the horizon after sun-set is very short; as the brightness of the horizon after sun-set is very great at this time of the year, and the Moon's latitude being southern, she will be near the horizon before her rays will have gained considerable power. She is then in the barren region of the Crab, the small stars in the Lion's head being above her at a considerable distance.

On the 29th, she is between the first of the Virgin and the five stars in triangle; and on the 30th, between the first of the Virgin and the tenth and eleventh of this constellation, but nearest to the latter stars, as she passes the tenth about two hours after midnight.

The season of the year is not favourable to observations on the stars, and the planets are in situations, in which they cannot excite much general attention.

Mercury is a morning star, in his inferior conjunction on the 1st, stationary on the 12th, and at his greatest elongation on the 26th. During the first part of the month, he is too near the Sun to be visible; and as he recedes from it, the disadvantages of his situation, added to the season of the year, in which the brightness of the eastern horizon before sun-rise is so great, will prevent him from being seen, except by the keen astronomer.

Venus is a morning star, but she has a southern latitude. On the 1st, she rises under BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXIV. M M M

he three first stars of the Ram, and is directing her course through the mid space between the Pleiades and Aldebaran, which she reaches on the 24th. Her splendour will distinguish her notwithstanding the brightness of the sky in the mornings of this month.

Mars is on the meridian at 14 minutes past eleven on the night of the first, and at forty minutes past nine on the 19th.

Jupiter is in conjunction with the Sun on the 5th; and of course after that time, a morning star not to be distinguished till towards the end of the month, when he may be seen between Venus and the Sun at sun-rise.

Saturn is on the meridian at four minutes past one in the morning of the 1st, and at forty minutes past eleven at night of the 19th. As he rises within an hour after sun-set on the 1st, we shall have sufficient opportunities of observing him, and comparing him with Mars.

Herschell is on the meridian at nineteen minutes past ten in the evening of the 1st, and at fifty four minutes past eight of the 21st. The Moon passes him on the 4th.

The Sun's apparent diameter on the 1st, is thirty-one minutes, thirty-five seconds, and on the 19th thirty one minutes, thirty-one seconds.

The ECLIPSES of the SATTELLITES of JUPITER are not visible this Month, JUPITER being too near the SUN.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are obliged to H.M.L., for his trouble in copying the Journal of a Wiltshire Curate. We decline to insert it, as we know it is not original. We think it appeared in the *Connoisseur*, a collection of periodical essays published many years ago.

ERRATA.—Page 262, 2 col. 11 line from bottom, for *ascendddh*, read *ascend*.—Page 297, 2d col. last line from the bottom of the page, for *I met*, read *When I visited*.—Page 304, 2d col. 10th line, for *whole*, read *whose*.—Page 335, 1 col. 9th line from bottom, for *or*, read *on*.—Page 313, 1 col. 18th line, for *Meckain*, read *Mechain*.—Page 298, 1st col. 6th line from the bottom, insert the words, "*I met*," before "*with a joyful, &c.*"—Page 298, 1st. col. 7th line from the bottom, insert the word *him*, after *spared*.—Page 298, 2d col. 1st line, dele the words, "*Since that time he thought us worthy of his company, walking, reading, every thing was now in common.*"—Page 300, col. 2d, 21st line from the top, dele the word *of*.—Page 377, 1 col. 38th line, for *premiums*, read *premises*.—Page 394, col. 1st, line 2d from the bottom of the page, for *written*, read *written*.

THE BELFAST MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

No. 35.]

JUNE, 30, 1811.

[Vol. 6.]

To the Editor of the Belfast Magazine.

SIR,

"ONE TOUCH OF NATURE MAKES US
ALL AKIN."

HUMAN nature is much the same in all countries. Face and features, and colour differ, but in the internal organization, there is little variety—all are selfish. The heart supplies itself with blood, before it yields a drop to the rest of the body. All possess sympathy, of whatever name, or nation they may be, and can communicate this universal language. Thus the Tartar Khan addresses himself to Michael Kamensky of the Russian army.

"Venerable, illustrious, great general,—My son Mahmud Gheary Sultan was said to have been killed in the battle fought by your and my troops. Therein consisted the will of God, and this is the fate of those who serve their religion and their monarch. You would not believe the assurances of the fore-named prisoners, but have sent the body with a guard, accompanied with the clergy of Gangura, with this request, that I should let you know whether it is really my son. *It is indeed my Son!*—and the good will you have shewn me by sending the same is particularly affecting to me. I send back, herewith, the two clergymen, and return you thanks with the tenderest emotions, and with many tears for the great favour you have shewn me." Every heart must feel the touch of nature expressed in this epistle, and every eye must see the hoary chieftain throwing his eyes

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fearfully, upon the corpse, and then raising them to Heaven.—"It is indeed my Son."

"On Monday a slave court was held at the court-house in this town, when John, a Sambo, was tried on two indictments, the one for stealing sundry tools, the other for assaulting with intent to kill Mr. Bruce, an overseer of St. Faith's estate, in St. John, (how the name of Saint is prostituted on sugar plantations!) when he was found guilty on both indictments. He was sentenced to be hanged next morning, which sentence was accordingly put in execution. When this sentence was pronounced, he *thanked* the court, and said, *It was the best thing they could do for him.*" From many this address would draw laughter; from one at least, at this distance of time and place, and connexion, it seldom fails of drawing a tear. The sublime sometimes borders upon the ridiculous, and the pathetic also, on some occasions, vibrates between tears and smiles.

In Plutarch's description of Cato's behaviour on the last night of his existence, before he fell upon his sword, he thus writes. "*Now the birds began to sing,* and Cato fell into a short slumber: at length Butis came back, and told him all was quiet in the Haven." There is here a touch of pathos in the contrasted quiet, and serenity of nature with the grandeur and sublimity of the mortal business then in procedure, that is singularly impressive and affecting. Far indeed is it from equaling (except as truth overcomes fiction) the sublime departure of Rhodan

deric Dhu, in the Lady of the Lake,

"At first, the Chieftain to the chime,
With lifted hand, kept *feckle* time."

Lines, I think inimitably pathetic, when contrasted to those which are instantly recollected,

"The Mountaineer shot glance of pride,
Across Benledi's *living* side."

When, by an effort, we break loose from the fascination in which we are held by Mr. Scott's poetry, and step, as it were, out of "the charmed circle," we cannot help wishing that he would *aggrandize* his subjects, and that free-booters, mountaineers, lifters of cattle, and savage marauders, were not so often imposed upon us as heroes; in short, that his heroes were more truly heroic; we cannot help wishing that the border story would give place to an Epic Poem, worthy of immortality, not only by the embellishments of fancy, but the intrinsic excellence of a grave and grand morality, such as might instruct, delightfully, the remotest posterity. He ought to rouse himself from his fairy fictions and golden slumbers, from the plaudits of girls; and boys, and distrust-ing the flush of popularity, he should chuse a subject, worthy of his name, his country, and his kind, and then shower down upon it the profusion of poetic beauty and creative imagination." *Quid cogitem, quæris*, (said Milton now mature of years) *ita me bonus Deus, Immortalitatem.*" 'Tis true. There is an immortality in a Fairy Tale, in the Arabian Nights, in the Border Story, but there is a Miltonic immortality, fitted for the maturity of the individual, and for the manhood of a nation.

And indeed, I think, such immortality will never be gained, but by an adequate, and awful MORAL running through the whole poem, and fertilizing all the flowers of a poetic fancy; it should, throughout the

whole work, associate itself with some grand and actuating passion of *universal* human nature, such as religion or patriotism. The whole duty of man, and of woman too, may be learned from Milton, in various passages, solid in sense, yet sparkling with fancy, and which ought to be repositied in the memory, not for the pedantry of quotation, but for the better purpose of lessening the life in the calm recess of the heart. The fair pupil may pluck the moral from such passages, and get them by *heart* in the truest sense, as they would gather for their bosom fresh flowers from the stalk in the garden of Eden.

The poem which ranks next to that of Milton ("delectando pariterque monendo") in its power of fancy, and at the same time, its authority of intellect, is the ODYSSEY of Homer, a worthy *atonement* made by the great author, for forming, and fostering the love of war, the art of killing our fellow creatures, which he has so recommended in the Iliad. It is indeed an ill compliment to the feelings as well as to the taste of mankind in general, that such a poem as the Iliad should have so long reigned paramount in Epic excellence. Shame upon public opinion that has bestowed such inadequate praise upon the adventures of Ulysses, the wise, the venerable, and the patriotic! The much enduring man, who, with glorious and yet imitable perseverance, wrestles with the waves of ill-fortune, keeps his head buoyant above the tide, and holds up the scarf of hope and confidence in the protection of divinity. *Ἄλλ' ἔσθ' ἡ καὶ ἡμῖνα*. Such is the motto worthy of MAN, and such is the man worthy of the universal acclaim of mankind, reiterated and prolonged till times remotest bound.

Let then the mature poet mark

and meditate that performance so truly heroic in all its progress, and taking some theme of universal interest, replete with some noble and magnanimous passion, let him paint for immortality; not the immortality of a fairy fiction, but of an epic, which may instruct as well as please the remotest generations, and cover his name and his nation with such glory, that, in ages to come, there may arise a question whether the author was called from the country, or the country from the author. The name of WALTER SCOTT has diverted me, as by a charm, from the subject I designed to touch upon, at the beginning of this letter, and it is scarcely, worth returning to it.

A. P.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE PEACOCK.

"How rich the Peacock! what bright glories run
From plume to plume, and vary in the sun!

He proudly spreads them to the golden ray,
Gives all his colours, and adorns the day;
With conscious state the spacious round displays,
And slowly moves amid the waving blaze."

YOUNG.

OF all the feathered inhabitants of the earth, the peacock has most peculiarly attracted the admiration of mankind. The Greek Mythologists thought him a worthy attendant on "Heaven's imperial Queen." And the great Solomon conceived it not beneath his dignity to admire this splendid bird, and while collecting around him whatever could augment his glory, we find that he gave a particular order for procuring Peacocks along with other treasures of the East. Indeed few objects seem better calculated to convey an idea of princely grandeur, and decorate

the domains of majesty. The sapphire, emerald, and topaze, seem combined with the ruby in his ever varying plumage, and even amidst the vivid glow of tropical vegetation, the peacock shines conspicuous. Over all the Southern regions of Asia, from the spicy groves of Ceylon, to the cold mountainous lands of Thibet, this bird is found in a state of liberty, but it is said, no where of greater beauty and size, than on the banks of the Ganges, where, guarded by tigers and other tremendous animals, they enjoy the permanent attachment of their female, who after six tedious weeks of patient incubation, sees rise around her an active and almost independent family of five or six young, who from having their infant wings provided with quill-feathers, accompany their mother to some elevated branch, where they rest secure, under the enfolding wings of their affectionate parent, who gives, and who receives, the most tender carresses, and not until that period when nature calls to multiply their species, and give existence to other beings, is this maternal solicitude dissolved.

If the Count de Buffon's theory could be applied to birds, that the life of an animal is only three or four times that of the period at which it arrived at a state of puberty, birds should be much shorter lived, than experience shews. Swans have been known to live to 100 years; Geese to 70 or 80; and a Goldfinch to 20. The limitation of the Peacock's life should therefore not be according to this rule, but according to that general law which seems to govern the life of birds. Yet no Peacock has yet been known in this country to exceed that of ten or twelve years. And although, like many of the productions of warm countries, it reproduces in our cold climate, it is not yet so well naturalized, as not

to have its life in some degree shortened by the severity perhaps of the winters it is obliged to endure. At about a month old, the crest begins to appear, at half a year the neck of the young cock becomes blue, but it is not until the second year that the various coloured eyes enrich his then often expanded tail, and the cock endeavours to attract the attention of the female, with a full display of his beauty. Nature, which in her productions seems to spread beauty around, and to adorn with a lavish hand, has denied to the Peahen the brilliancy of her mate, guided by that unerring wisdom, which has fitted every animal for its mode of life, (which colours the timid hare like the winter-blasted fern, and the woodcock like the fallen leaf,) has coloured her in uniformity to the ground on which she is destined to pass so much of her time; and to this homely colouring she is in all likelihood indebted for her safety, from her quick-sighted enemies, while engaged in her maternal duties.

In this country, even while young, they are by no means tender, and when they are left to their mother's care, she feeds them with indefatigable attention, with flies and other insects.—Linnaeus says, that Peafowl are poisoned by eating of the cominorfelder, and it has been observed, that wherever that plant abounds, few young have ever been reared; when reared, they seem to bid defiance to the storm, and the severest weather of our climate, scarce ever forces them from the house-top, a situation which they seem particularly to delight in, and from which, when the lightning flashes and the thunder rolls, they join their voices, seemingly wishing, like small song-birds, to contend for mastery, and by their loud and repeated cries, to overpower their opponent. They are often sub-

ject to sore-feet, a disorder perhaps first generated by cold, and afterwards perpetuated from generation to generation. And as if, however, to prevent our pleasure in possession of this beautiful creature from being without alloy, some bad qualities lurk under this fair exterior; the Peafowl are the tyrants of the farm-yard, they follow with never-ceasing persecution whatever fowl is their inferior in strength, and with those which are able to contend with them, they wage eternal war. The garden also, without strict attention to expel them on their first attempts at entrance, exhibits daily marks of their depredations.

Cælian mentions, that "the Peacock was at Athens shown for a stated price to both men and women who were admitted to the spectacle, at the feasts of new moon. Considerable sums were thus collected, and many, through curiosity, came from Lacedæmon and Thessaly."—"The date of this cannot be fixed, but it was after the return of Alexander from India. The conqueror was so much delighted with the rich plumage of the Peacocks, that he enacted severe penalties against killing them"—"After the Peacock was transplanted from Asia into Greece, it found its way into the south of Europe, and gradually was introduced into France, Germany, and Switzerland, and as far as Sweden."

At what period they were brought to Ireland, cannot now be determined. It is however probable that they were brought to Britain by the Romans, and from thence transferred to Ireland, but the hand which added this beautiful bird to our domestic animals, and his name, as his whose patient industry reclaimed the first barren waste, is concealed under the veil of time, leaving us only the power to imitate their deeds.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

PROSPECTUS OF THE DUBLIN INSTITUTION, 1811.

WITHOUT alluding to any scientific or literary association already existing amongst us, to each of which society is indebted for the extension of knowledge, and consequently for improvement in the best qualities of man, it is obviously an object worthy of the most respectable residents in this populous metropolis, not only to increase the facilities of promoting those valuable purposes, but by enlarging the opportunities of information, to multiply the probabilities of calling forth, and of fostering talents, which may hereafter adorn and enlighten our city and our nation.

Useful learning, or that wisdom which flows from the labours and the experience of ages, is not, and ought not to be confined to Academic groves, or to the walks of the learned of whatever profession; it renders even amusements elegant and improving, and it converts into a blessing that leisure which to the vacant mind too often proves a curse: in a more important point of view, it not only assists to discover and combine the means of enlarging the wealth and power of a state, but it gives to agriculture multiplied and varied productions—to manufactures the manifold use of the powers of nature—to commerce the widest intercourse of man with man, indefinite interchange of benefits, and daily augmentation of the public stock; and, above all, it directs benevolence how best to relieve distress, to prevent vice, to promote virtue, and to diffuse happiness.

In a great city like this, men are engaged in almost every pursuit of cultivated society, whether contemplative, or active, or both: and con-

sequently the association and mutual contact of such variety of character, in the prosecution of any intellectual object, must prove materially beneficial, inasmuch as the information, views, and modes of thinking peculiar to each, tend to enlarge useful knowledge, to correct prejudice, and to establish truth.

And farther, the means of knowledge brought home to the bosom of private families, and access to liberal instruction, made easy and frequent, may prove highly favourable to domestic happiness. The ardour of youth, too often wasted in destructive dissipation, may thus be pre-occupied by a taste for improvement; and what is of equal moment, information, operative as well as pleasing, may be more generally acquired by those best associates of the domestic state, to whom the earliest and most important years of life are entrusted, on whose wisdom or folly so much of virtue and happiness depends, and by respectable exertions of some of whom true honour has been conferred on their sex, and lasting benefit on society.

Under these impressions, and to advance these views it has been proposed to establish an institution, in some convenient situation in the city of Dublin, which shall be supplied with a select and extensive library, and with the necessary apparatus for lectures, on the most generally useful subjects of science. It has also been proposed that the use of the books shall not be merely local, but they shall be delivered out, *under terms and regulations*, to be determined upon hereafter; and that every mode shall be adopted to unite, from time to time, all the objects of which the institution may be found capable, in order to render it the most variously and most extensively beneficial.

That the entire property shall belong to the subscribers for two hun-

dred shares of £50. each, of which, no individual shall hold more than four; but that the privileges of the institution may be communicated to such other persons; and on such terms as shall be determined hereafter.

That the shares shall be transferable under regulations to be determined hereafter.

That the intended establishment shall be called the DUBLIN INSTITUTION; and that the entire management shall be vested in a committee of twenty-one members, to be elected annually by and from among the proprietors, and to be appointed as soon as one hundred shares shall be subscribed for, in the manner hereafter to be determined.

The first hundred shares having been subscribed for, the undermentioned Committee have been appointed:

Edward Allen, esq.
John Barrington, esq.
Wm. Beilby, esq.
James Cleghorn, M.D.
Thomas Crowthwait, esq.
Eccles Cuthbert, esq.
Jeremiah D'Olier, esq.
Richard Gamble, M.D.
Arthur Guinness, esq.
Edward Houghton, esq.
Joseph Hone, esq.
Rev. Joseph Hutton.
Wm. Johnson, L.L.D.
Benjamin Kearney, esq.
Thomas Parnell, esq.
John Patten, esq.
Archd. Redfoord, esq.
Paulus Æ. Singer, esq.
Joseph Singer, F.T.C.D.
Rev. James Wilson, F.T.C.D.
Thomas Wilson, esq.

The shares are now nearly filled, and a house is purchased for the use of the institution.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

SOME BYE-LAWS OF THE TOWN OF CARRICKFERGUS:

1569.—THE town-clerk to have two shillings and six pence Irish, for every freeman.

1574.—That actions under thirty shillings shall pay only half cost.

1575.—That the mayor may distress any inhabitant for one shilling every time that the street before such inhabitant's dwelling is not duly swept.

1576, 4th April.—That every one admitted to the freedom, shall pay a dinner to the town, and if he were entered for a whole share, to pay beside £4.—if for one half, £2.—if for one fourth, £1.

—, 10th May.—That all aldermen be cest accordingly, or else disfranchised. That the fees of the sheriffs, town-clerk, and serjeant, shall be set down on record. That no freeman or foreigner be arrested in a freeman's house for debt or trespass, whether the door of the freeman be shut or open.

1593.—That none shall be a free merchant to buy or sell any staple-wares, but the 40 merchants now elected, and all others must either serve three years with a merchant of the staple, or pay a fine to be admitted a stapler, under the staple-seal.

1600, 19th January.—That every alderman in his respective ward shall have three able men provided with some convenient weapons, and have power in their saidwards to commit any offender, to look to the keeping of the streets clean. That no merchant take upon him to receive his share of any town's bargain, under colour to take it to his house, and afterwards sell it to any other free merchant's wife, servant, or factor,

upon penalty of loss of his freedom amongst the merchants of the trinity yield, and the goods so sold to be disposed of at the direction of the mayor and merchants.

1601, 6th July.—After the election of the mayor, he is the first year, mayor of the town, second year, mayor of the staple, third year, master of trinity yield and master of the company of merchants, and fourth year, treasurer of the town.

1606, 19th January.—The mayor's salary, the third part of his majesty's custom, and petty custom; the sheriffs, 20s. the piece; the town clerk, £4; the two sergeants, 40s. the piece—all money of Ireland.

1624.—That the third part of his majesty's customs should be taken from the mayor, and converted always to the town's use.

—, 5th July.—That every alderman bring in his plate, or pay to the town's use 20 nobles, sterling. That the sheriffs former salary, viz. 20 nobles, be resumed, and that the rest satisfied hereafter with the fines for bloodsheds and batteries, and that they shall not be troubled with collecting the town's revenue, but that there be a certain collector appointed.

That the town's clerk former salary be resumed likewise, and that he rest satisfied with his fees and perquisites, and that he be exempted from all levies and assessments.

1640, 1st June.—That no person or persons that do or shall owe the corporation any money, be admitted into the election to be mayor or sheriff before he or they take a course or payment thereof.

1658, 28th June.—That every alderman using any sinister ends, in procuring votes to be elected mayor, if so elected, his election to be void, and that no person admitted free, shall have liberty to vote for

mayor, till he have first paid his fines and fees.

—, 7th September.—That the breach of the town-walls near the west mill-pond, be now repaired at the town's charge, but that hereafter it be repaired at the charge of Roger Lyndon, his heirs.

1659, 24th June.—That the mayors shall not receive above £30. per annum. That no mayor shall receive any of the town's revenue, but that it be committed to the care of some honest person or persons to be disbursed by orders of the mayor and major part of the bench and common council.

That there be an account taken of the money for which the customs were sold—Confirms the act 1st June, 1640, against the town's debtors, being elected mayor or sheriff.

That several bonds belonging to the town, and left in the custody of Sir William Sambidge, late recorder should be looked after.

That the staple be enquired into.

That all the members of the town, which are of ability, do lend the town some money to be employed in the recovering their just debts.

That the 1500 acres of commons unset be never disposed of.

That a survey be forthwith taken of every particular man's holding within our liberties, and account of the rent-roll and charge issuable by the town, and that after the town's present debts be paid, there shall be no further engagement than what the revenue shall from time to time be able to discharge at the year's end.

1677, 21st January.—That the pavement in the town and suburbs be repaired by the several inhabitants before their respective holdings, the fine not to exceed 6s. 8d. each offence.

2. That all fines and amercements whatsoever be deposited in the sheriffs

hands, to be issued by the mayor's order, and whereas the mayor still claimed the best fine happening in his time as his due, that hereafter he only have 20s. sterling in lieu of such fine out of said fines.

3. That no town's bond be passed, save at a general quarter-assembly, in the presence of eight aldermen, twelve burgesses, and other commoners, and that it shall be lawful for any succeeding to sue the mayor and sheriffs so offending, for double the sum so entered into, and defranchise them likewise.

4. That no person cut any turf on the commons, or lead lands, without licence from the mayor. (except what shall be necessarily expended on the premises), they paying two load out of the score for the corporation's use, the offender to be indicted for a waste and sued for damages.

5. That no warrant for issuing the town's revenue be signed, but in open court on the first monday in every month.

6. That no mayor or deputy-mayor be in election for the ensuing year, upon pain of disfranchisement to all persons offending.—These bye-laws to be read every election day.

7 That FORTUNATUS CARRICKFERGUS, the town's child, be forthwith set apprentice at the town's charge.

1678, 22d July.—That the fairs of this town be toll-free for seven years following, for the encouragement of those that will come thither,

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

THE following charitable plans, with the accompanying judicious remarks are selected from the *Philanthropist*, a new periodical publication, in London. They might be judiciously adopted in this country, particularly at free-schools for girls.

Care, however, should be taken to keep the plan distinct from the premiums distributed at the schools for good conduct.

E. *Plan of penny-club at Woodford for clothing poor children.*

Every child who is admitted a member of this club is to subscribe one penny per week, which it must bring to the ladies appointed to receive it, every Monday morning punctually at nine o'clock. This little fund is increased by as many subscribers of a higher class as can be obtained, three subscriptions being necessary for every child, besides its own subscription. At the expiration of every quarter, namely, at Christmas, Lady-day, Midsummer, and Michaelmas, the sum which has been collected is allotted in equal shares to the children, but is never given to them in money, the treasurer expending it for them in useful articles of clothing, which they have the privilege of choosing for themselves, provided the cost does not exceed each share. The children are to show their clothes to them who subscribe for them. If the children are seen ragged or dirty they will be dismissed the club. To avoid trouble, the subscriptions of ladies and gentlemen will be received at Christmas and Midsummer, being at one penny per week, two shillings and two pence half yearly*.

Plan of the penny-club, Stoke-Newington, commenced in 1809. for the purpose of assisting and encouraging the poor in clothing their children.

One penny per week to be paid by each child, and one penny by the subscriber.

Any persons disposed to become subscribers, are requested to send to the treasurer their own names, and the names and places of abode

* There is club at Clapham, requiring four subscribers for each child.

of the children whom they wish to make members of the club, provided such children are not at any school, &c. from which they receive regular clothing. The child must take or the mother send, one penny every Monday, beginning from Christmas or Midsummer half year, to the collector, who will transmit it at stated times to the treasurer. Neglect or irregularity in sending the penny, must forfeit the claim to the benefits of the club. At Midsummer and Christmas the collector will call for the subscriptions, viz. two shillings and two pence for each child, with an additional six-pence at Christmas as a remuneration for her time and trouble. After each collection, the treasurer is to make enquiry of the mothers into the articles of clothing most wanted, and employ the money four shillings and four pence for each as advantageously as she can, directing the children to show the clothes to those who subscribe for them.

Although the principal view held out by each of these plans is substantially the same, yet they differ in minor points of considerable importance. In one instance three, in another four, and in the last only one subscriber are attached to the payment of each child, the former with the intention of furnishing all the apparel requisite, and consequently confining the benefit to a few: the latter more diffusive in its operation, embracing a wider circle, but circumscribing the personal advantage to each individual; and it deserves serious reflection, whether the proportion of four or three to one is not more than can be looked upon by the parents as the fair recompense of their own economy: and whether it is not preferable to admit several children of the same family to a participation of the advantage, rather than by doing more for one child, produce a distinction in their

appearance, which may lead to unkind feelings and unfavourable consequences.

The economical and judicious application of these small sums is found to produce a greater effect than could be reasonably anticipated: four shillings and four pence doubly subscribed, that is, eight shillings and eight pence annually cautiously expended, will nearly clothe an infant, and will supply a considerable portion of the clothing for younger children; and if arrangements of this sort could be connected with the Lancastrian system of education, it would materially tend to produce that decency of appearance in the children, which is desirable in every public institution. The plans above recited encourage in poor families the important habit of regular saving, and the addition of an equal sum from the subscriber, should be considered rather as the just reward of industry and good conduct, than as a mere charitable donation. Thus, while the benevolent dispositions of the affluent are cherished and brought into activity, the poor are taught the practical value of small savings constantly accumulating; they learn to feel the advantages resulting from order and perseverance; they are instructed in the important art of adopting the most effectual means to the accomplishment of a particular end, and thus the best interests and gratifications of both classes are made to combine and support each other.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

AN ORIGINAL LETTER FROM DR. DUCHAL,
DESCRIPTIVE OF THE LIFE AND LABOURS
OF A PROTESTANT DISSENTING
MINISTER, IN THE YEAR 1738.

DEAR SIR,

I HAVE read all your criticisms concerning myself, without frown,

o o o

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without smile, without any thing. Every onlooker, that can see, must see that the country is my proper sphere; and is rendered so by a patient and contented drudgery, at every body's call, at every body's service; in foul weather and fair, through thick and thin, talking with book or without it, (in both senses of that word), as the humours of the people direct; just as fit to live upon three-score pounds, as three hundred; content without conversation, without books, or time to read them; travelling with the same humour, among cottagers and labourers, as among hall-houses and squires, bringing home a lodgment of fleas, as happily as a good dinner and a glass of claret. But I am out of breath commending myself. Pray, good Sir Thomas, do you find yourself as well qualified for a country life? Will any man imagine that a delicacy that would better become a fine miss than a country parson, can suit our exigencies; the state and hunger of the unpolished multitudes we have to do with? Is a man that dare not upon any occasion lay aside his papers, (so exactly written, that upon some occasions, to the great scandal of very worthy persons, they have been taken for *print books*), for fear of putting an *if* or an *and* out of its place, or giving at any time to *which* an unrighteous procedure of *who*, or missing the stop a comma demands, fit for serving in most of our congregations? Is a man of so tender lamb-skin, that he would not ride thirty miles to assist at a sacrament, for a four pound piece, fit to hold in a side in a society so far scattered? What shall I say more? You are not fit for Dublin; (and this you have learned from your conscience, though I cannot tell how). Let this be granted, and what are you then fit for? I am sure if you cannot do in

town, you can far less do in the country. But you are happily situated now in an easy collegiate charge, and our congregations are full, so that there is no need for running about to supply. Yes, and to be sure this posture of affairs will always continue. You are sure of that. And you are sure you will always have a colleague in Belfast, and be safe with him. And that you will never have more call than you have now, to assist the country congregations. And you are sure, if it should happen that these expectations should fail you, you can, whenever you please, transport yourself to Dublin, with the same advantage with which you can go to it now. These things are all so rational, that it is no wonder you never have a thought about yourself. I have nothing further to say upon this affair, seeing it is delayed till the presbytry. And what I am to say about it, must be said openly, which is the only reason I am now restrained from pouring forth as much as good Elihu had to say, when he could contain no longer, but being pad-locked, I bid you adieu. I hope you will neither expose yourself nor me, by shewing this rhapsodie.

Yours,

Jany. 29th, 1738.

J. DUCHAL.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

PROFESSOR BODE, of Berlin, discovered the following analogy in the distances of the planets, and by means of it foretold the discovery of the new plants, Ceres, Pallas, Juno, and Vesta, whose distances (from the sun) are nearly the same.

Mercury,	4 4.
Venus,	4 × 3 × 1° — 7
Earth,	4 × 3 × 2' — 10

Mars,	$4 \times \overline{3 \times 2^2} = 16.$
Ceres, &c.	$4 \times \overline{3 \times 2^3} = 28.$
Jupiter,	$4 \times \overline{3 \times 2^4} = 52.$
Saturn,	$4 \times \overline{3 \times 2^5} = 100.$
Uranus, or Herschell. }	$4 \times \overline{3 \times 2^6} = 196.$

G.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ACCORDING to our promise, we now communicate the eleventh report of the board of education, which will be found to contain matter of considerable interest. A bill in consequence of it has been introduced into the house of commons, by Secretary Pole, which is ordered to be printed, and is to lie over till next session. We hope to procure a copy for insertion in our next number.

ELEVENTH REPORT FROM THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND; ORDERED BY THE HOUSE OF COMMONS TO BE PRINTED APRIL 9, 1811.

PARISH SCHOOLS.

To His Grace Charles Duke of Richmond and Lenox, &c. Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR GRACE,

WE the undersigned commissioners, appointed for enquiring into the several funds and revenues granted by public or private donations for the purposes of education, and into the state and condition of all schools upon public or charitable foundations in Ireland, proceed to lay before your Grace our report upon the state of the PARISH SCHOOLS.

These are the oldest institutions under the denomination of schools in this country; they are co-eval with the introduction of the Reformation, and were established Anno Domini 1537, in the 28th year of the reign

of King Henry the eighth, when an act of parliament was passed, intituled, "An act for the English order, habit, and language." The views and object of this statute will be best explained by the following extract from its preamble: "The King's Majesty, our most gracious and redoubted sovereign lord, prebending and waying by his great wisdom, learning and experience, how much it doth more conferre to the induction of rude and ignorant people to the knowledge of Almighty God, and of the good and virtuous obedience which by his most holy precepts and commandments they owe to their princes and superiors, then a good instruction in his most blessed laws, with a conformitie, co-incidence and familiarity in language, tongue, in manners, order, and apparel, with them that be civil people, and do profess and knowledge Christ's religion, and civil and politike orders, laws, and directions, as his grace's subjects of this part of this his land of Ireland, that is called the English pale, doth most graciously, considering that there is again nothing which doth more conteyne and keep many of his subjects of the said land in a certain savage and wilde kind and manner of living, then the diversitie that is betwixt them in tongue, language, order, and habit." And after an ordonance that the Irish habit and apparel should be abolished, and the peculiar form in which the Irish wore their hair, discontinued, the statute proceeds in the third section to enact, "That every person or persons the King's true subjects inhabiting this land of Ireland, of what estate condition or degree he or they may be or shall be, to the uttermost of their power, cunning, and knowledge, shall use and speak commonly the English tongue and language; and that every such person and persons having

childe or children shall endeavour themselves to cause and procure the said childe and children to use and speak the English tongue and language, and according to this or their abilitie, cunning, and power, shall bring up his said childe and children in such places where they shall or may have occasion to learn the English tongue, language, order, and condition." And with a view to the general introduction of the English tongue and language, it further enacts, that spiritual promotions should be only given to such persons as could speake English, unless after four proclamations made in the next market town such could not be had; and further, that every archbishop, bishop, and Suffragan, and every other having authority and power to give order of priesthood, deacon, and subdeacon, shall at the time they gave to any person any of these spiritual orders, administer to each of them a corporal oath, not only that he will endeavour himself to learn the English language, and instruct and teach the English tongue, to all under his rule, order, and governance, and in likewise shall bid the beades in the English tongue, and preach the word of God in English, but also that he shall "keepe or cause to be kept within the place, terretorie, or paroch where he shall have rule, benefice, or promotion, a schoole for to learne English, if any of the childrene of his paroch come to him to learne the same, taking for the keeping of the same schoole such convenient stipend or salarie as in the said land is accustomedly used to be taken." And it is further enacted, that if the bishop or suffragan omit to administer such oath to the person receiving any spiritual promotion, and "that shall have the service of any paroch church under him," he shall pay a fine of three pounds six shillings and eight-pence, one moiety

of said fine to be paid to the King, and the other to the informer; and any person prompted to any benefice as aforesaid, and neglecting to fulfil the tenor, purport, and effect of said oath, is for the first offence to forfeit the sum of six shillings and eight-pence; for the second offence, twenty shillings; and for the third, to be deprived of his benefice. There is a provision in the act, that it should not extend or be prejudicial to any clergyman residing in any metropolitan cathedral, or collegiate church, and studying at any university, or otherwise out of the land by the King's commandment, "but that such paroch priest or priests which shall have the service of any paroch church under him or them, shall during their absence teache the English tongue and language, and keepe a schoole according to the form of this act, under a penalty of twenty shillings a year for any year that he shall omit the same."

Under this act the parish schools of Ireland were established; and every Clergyman now inducted to a living, takes an oath in the words following:

"I, A. B. do solemnly swear, That I will teach or cause to be taught, an English school within the said vicarage or rectory of... as the law in that case requires."

How far the provisions of this act of parliament, which related to the instruction of the Irish and of their children in the English language, were enforced in the reign of Henry the eighth; and whether any or what number of English schools were immediately established in consequence of it; we have no means of ascertaining at this distance of time. The measure certainly met with opposition from some of the leading members of the church*. Though none of the statutes of the next

* See Archbishop Dowdall's Life, in Ware.

reign (Edward sixth) are preserved in the Irish statute book, it appears (if we may rely upon the Historian Leland and his authorities, Sir J. Davis, Ware, and a MS. * in Trinity College, Dublin) that during that reign the Irish language was become so predominant within the English Pale, that laws were repeatedly enacted to restrain it, but ineffectually; and we find the Irish chancellor of that time complaining in a letter to the Duke of Northumberland, president of the council in England,—“That hard it was that men should know their duties to God and the King, when they shall not hear teaching or preaching throughout the year.”

Where there was such a general want of clergymen resident on their livings, it may be presumed, that there were very few, if any, parochial English schools then existing; and it appears from the Irish statute book that (in the reign of Elizabeth) the English language had made so little progress in this country, and that so many of the clergy themselves of the reformed church were at that period unable to officiate in the English language, that in the act for “The uniformity of the common prayer,” (2d Elizabeth, chap. 2. anno domini 1560) it was found necessary to enact, That in any church or place where the common minister or priest had not the use or knowledge of the English tongue, he might celebrate the services “in Latin, according to the order and form as they be mentioned and set forth in the said book (the book of common prayer) established by this act, and according to the tenor of said act.” It is not therefore very probable, that under such unfavourable circumstances any considerable num-

ber of English or parish schools could have been established in Ireland at that period. But of this we have no certain information; all that appears, is, that the government was not inattentive to the circumstances of education at this period, for in the 12th year of the reign Elizabeth, an act was passed, intitled, “An act for the erection of free schools,”—the act under which the present diocesan schools were established. This act (as we have shown in a former report) not only provided that a free school should be kept in every shire town, but also provided, that a school house should be built in each (the first erection probably of these buildings in Ireland;) and as the preamble to this act attributes “the manifold and heinous offences, daily and hourly committed and perpetrated, to a lack of good bringing up the youth of this realm, either in public or private schools, where through good discipline they might be taught to avoid these loathsome and horrible errors;” it may be inferred that the establishment of the English or parish schools had not then been generally carried into effect; and in fact, however fully sensible our ancestors may have been of the importance, both in a moral and political point of view, of providing for the good instruction of the children of the middle and lower orders of the Irish people, it is almost certain, that the very unsettled state of Ireland during the reign of Elizabeth and the greater part of that of her successor (James the first) and the convulsions of the following reigns, (Charles and James the second) afforded no opportunity for the general establishment of English or parish schools. Henry the eighth

* Cusack's letters to the Duke of Northumberland, Anno Domini 1552; Cusack was then Chancellor of Ireland.

tioned: These acts, however, prove that the importance of a good education for the children of this country, of the middle and lower orders, engaged the attention of our earliest legislators; and it is remarkable, that both of these very ancient statutes attribute most of the evils which then afflicted this country, to the want of good and general instruction.

Some attention appears to have been paid in the reign of Charles the second, to the regulation of schools in general, by excluding improper persons from having the charge of them; for in the 17th and 18th year of this reign, an act was passed, which provided "that all schoolmasters should take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy, and be licensed by the ordinary." This act was afterwards further enforced in the 7th year of King William the third, when an act was passed (chapter 4th) intituled, "An act to restrain foreign education;" in which it was amongst other things enacted, that the act of the 28th year of Henry the eighth, before-mentioned, "should from thenceforth be strictly observed, and put in execution." The next act of parliament in any way relating to the parish schools (or to the schools for the lower orders) which is to be found in the Irish statute book, is one passed in the 8th year of George the first, chapter 12, and at present in force; it is intituled, "An act for the better enabling of the clergy having cure of souls, to reside upon their respective benefices; and for the encouragement of protestant schools within this kingdom of Ireland." In the 9th section of this statute, it is enacted, "that for the better encouragement of English Protestant schools, which are much wanting in this kingdom," it shall and may be lawful for every archbishop and bishop, with the consent of his chapter, and for every dean, archdeacon, dignitary, prebenda-

ry, rector, vicar, and ecclesiastical person whatsoever, with the consent of the archbishop or bishop of his diocese, to make an absolute grant to the churchwardens of each parish, and their successors for ever, of any quantity of land to any of them respectively belonging, as glebe or otherwise, not exceeding two acres for an archbishop or bishop, and one acre for any other person before-mentioned, for the use of a resident Protestant master to teach the English tongue; which schoolmaster is to be nominated by the person making the grant, and to be licensed by the archbishop or bishop of the diocese. And by an act afterwards passed in the 5th year of George the second; chapter 4th, section 9, tenants in fee tail or for life, in possession with immediate remainder to issue, may by deed grant an acre of thirty shillings yearly value, and not part of demesne, to the churchwardens of any parish for the same use for ever. This is the latest act that we find in the statute book that seems to have any relation to parish schools. Since this report was drawn up, but previous to its signature, an act of parliament received the royal assent last session, intituled, "An act for enabling tenants in tail and for life, and also ecclesiastical persons, to grant land for the purpose of endowing schools in Ireland." By this act all persons whatsoever seized of any lands in fee simple, fee tail or for life, in possession with immediate remainder to his, her, or their issue of any interest in lands, are empowered by his or their deeds respectively, to grant any part of such lands, not exceeding half an acre Irish plantation measure, within the liberties of any city or corporate town in Ireland, nor two acres, Irish plantation measure, in any other part of Ireland, of whatever yearly value the same may be, and bring no part of demesne lands, to any

person or persons, body or bodies corporate, whether aggregate or sole (who shall be approved of for that purpose by the bishop of the diocese in which such lands lie) and to his and their heirs or successors, in fee simple, or for any lesser interest, in trust and for the use of a resident schoolmaster and subject to such condition respecting the mode of appointing such schoolmaster and his successors, and the plan of education and regulation of such school and its concerns, as shall be specified in such deed, or as shall afterwards be agreed upon between the persons making such grant and the person or persons, bodies politic or corporate, who shall advance his or their money to the amount of not less a sum than one hundred pounds, either for the building of a school house on the lands so granted, or for the endowment of a schoolmaster; and by this act all ecclesiastical persons whatsoever are empowered to grant any quantity of their church or glebe lands, not exceeding one acre, for the same purpose, in the same manner, and subject to the same conditions. From the forgoing view of the parish schools, it appears that they were, at their first establishment, intended to be compulsory as well on the people as the clergy, for the purpose of introducing the knowledge and practice of the English language, then unknown to the native Irish, who were required to bring up their children in such places where they could learn that tongue; and the corresponding duty of keeping those schools for teaching the English tongue, or causing them to be kept, was enjoined to the clergy at their institution; but it ought to be remembered, that this statute enjoining the clergy to teach or cause to be taught the English language within their respective districts, seems confined in its object of civilization only, and in no degree adverting to protes-

tantism, as it expressly requires the clergy to bid their beads in English; but it appears that in the time of Charles the second, of William the third, and of Anne, the advancement of the Protestant religion was more distinctly provided for by the legislative regulations respecting schools; and from the acts of George the first and second, above cited, it further appears, that the legislature expected that the bishops and dignitaries and parochial clergy should make grants of small portions of their church lands, for the purpose of erecting school houses thereon; and many such grants have from time to time been made. It does not however appear that at any time any grants of money have been made by parliament, or any fund appropriated for defraying the expences of building parish school houses; and we have reason to think, that most of those actually erected were built at the expense of the several parishes, or by the bounty of individuals. Few, if any of these school houses are much older than the reign of Anne, the most ancient we believe to be the school house of St. John's parish in the city of Dublin. Though the act of Henry the eighth, as is already stated, ordains that every incumbent in the kingdom should keep or cause to be kept an English school in his parish, yet there is no regulation made therein of the stipend to be paid by the clergymen to the person whom he shall cause to keep the school for him; but we find that a custom has universally prevailed (though we cannot trace the period of its commencement) for the incumbents of parishes, in which parish schools are kept, to allow the schoolmaster forty shillings per annum as his salary, and whenever this small stipend (utterly inadequate at present) is paid by the clergymen to a schoolmaster, the school is considered as a parish school.

We now proceed to lay before your Grace a statement of the result of the enquiries made by the former commissioners into the state of the parish schools in Ireland, in the year 1788; and also an account of the condition which they appeared to be in, according to the returns made to us in the years 1808 and 1809.

It appears from the returns to the former board from all the dioceses in Ireland, excepting five—viz. Armagh, Meath, Elphin, Kilmore, and Cashel, that there were in the year 1788, in the twenty-nine dioceses which furnished these returns, comprizing eight hundred and thirty-eight benefices, three hundred and sixty-one parish schools, that is, *effective* schools, to which the incumbents paid the stipend of forty shillings, or more, per annum, to each master; that in seventy-four of these eight hundred and thirty eight benefices, the respective clergyman paid the salary of forty shillings to a nominal master, who did not keep school; and that in the remainder of the said number of benefices, being four hundred and three, it did not appear that the incumbents either paid the salary, or caused any school to be kept. It appears also by these returns, that the number of children instructed in 1788, at the parish schools, was about eleven thousand, and the number of school houses about two hundred and one; and also, that the prices paid by the parents of the children at those schools for their instruction, varied from one to three shillings per quarter, and that spelling and reading in all, and writing and arithmetic in some, comprized the course of instruction.

Returns, at our request, have been furnished to us by order of the several archbishops and bishops to their clergy, from all the dioceses in Ireland; these returns, however,

comprize no more than seven hundred and thirty-six* benefices and unions. But it appears, that in this number of benefices, there are five hundred and forty-nine parish schools at present kept, and the number of children returned as receiving instruction at them, at certain periods of the year, amounts to about twenty-three thousand. It appears also, that the northern dioceses are best furnished with parish schools, and school houses; that in the city of Dublin there are as many parish schools and school houses† as there are benefices, and that the other parts of the diocese of Dublin are in general well supplied with both; and the same may be affirmed of the diocese of Meath, and of the united dioceses of Leighlin, and comparatively of Ferns, all in the province of Leinster; but it appears, that in the dioceses in Munster and Connaught, not much more than half of the benefices have parish schools; that the number of school houses in these is very inconsiderable, and in four dioceses it would appear that there are none. It is evident, however, though it is stated by several of the clergymen of the latter dioceses, in their returns, that the parish schools in those parts of Ireland are fast declining, yet, that on the whole, their number is increasing throughout Ireland, there being, as already stated, five hundred and forty-nine parish schools kept in the seven hundred and thirty-six benefices from which returns have been fur-

* There are about one thousand, one hundred, and twenty-two benefices in Ireland.

† In the parish schools in Dublin most of the children are lodged, clothed and clothed, as well as instructed. These schools are supported by annual charity sermons, and subscriptions, and some few of them have permanent funds, and the masters and mistresses have liberal salaries and allowances.

nished to us; whereas it appears, that in the year 1788, there were but three hundred and sixty-one kept in 837 benefices; it appears likewise, that the number of children instructed at these schools, has more than doubled the number returned in 1788; and had the returns from the parishes in each diocese been fuller, we may presume that it would have appeared that the number of children receiving instruction at these schools, is more considerable than twenty-three thousand; but the number of parish school houses does not appear to have been increased as much as might have been expected since 1788, being only two hundred and thirty-three in the seven hundred and thirty-six benefices from which we have been furnished with returns. The present course of instruction at these schools, comprises spelling and reading, writing, and arithmetic: in most of them, some of the children are free scholars, but the greater part pay for their tuition at rates, which vary from two shillings and sixpence to three shillings and three pence, three shillings and nine-pence halfpenny, four shillings and four pence, five shillings and five pence, and in some few cases the rate is we believe as high as eleven shillings and fourpence halfpenny per quarter. These schools are open to children of all religious persuasions. But there are certainly a great many instances stated in these returns, and particularly in those from the dioceses in the south and west, and in some from the province of Leinster, of Roman Catholics refusing to send their children to be instructed at them; and this refusal is stated to have arisen from an order to that purpose, given by some of the Roman Catholic clergy; in consequence of which, children of their persuasion, who had attended them, had

been immediately withdrawn, and sent to schools opened by Roman Catholics in their neighbourhood.

In many of the parish schools, the parish clerks are also the schoolmasters, and some of the masters are paid by the incumbents a higher salary than forty shillings per annum, in some cases five, and in a few others ten guineas per annum, with the advantages of a house and garden rent free. But these allowances, &c. are voluntary and during pleasure; and we have observed, that in most cases, those schools are the greatest, where the allowances are most liberal. But throughout the returns sent in to us, there is a general complaint of the want of school houses, and of the difficulty of procuring properly qualified masters, on account of the inadequacy of the salaries, and the want of proper accommodation for them and their scholars; it is stated to us also, that the number of the children attending these schools varies at different periods of the year, being generally the lowest at those seasons (in spring and harvest) when any employment is to be had for children, their parents at such times keeping them from the schools, for the sake of the small pittance they can earn by weeding the crops and binding the harvest, which small pittance (generally not more than three or four pence per day,) is however an object to their indigent parents. In one return only it is stated (return from the union of Sligo, diocese of Elphin) by the clergyman, that many of the poor people of his parish were averse from sending their children to school, conceiving that the sedentary habits required there, unfitted them for bodily labour. But we are persuaded, that, generally speaking, a very great and almost universal desire exists at this moment among the

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poor of this country, to give their children some kind of school education; among the many instances of this general inclination stated in the returns, we shall select the following. In the return from the union of Castlemore, diocese of Killa, in which benefice there are ten schools, one of which is a parish school, it is stated, that six hundred children attend these different schools, "but that double the number could and would attend, were they not prevented by the poverty of their parents, who cannot afford to pay for their instruction."—The curate who makes the return from the parish of Upper Langfield, in the diocese of Derry, states, that in his parish, "the population though poor is numerous, amounting to nearly fifteen hundred souls, about three-fifths Romanists, the remainder composed of the established church, and dissenters, all striving to a degree at once exemplary and affecting, to give their children as much learning as possible; so that if there were a roomy and commodious school-house, it would quickly be filled. The present school is kept in a small dark and inconvenient building, lent by a farmer."

And in a return from Drumaul (diocese of Down and Connor) the general disposition in the lower orders for educating their children is mentioned, and as a proof of it, it is stated, that "in two or three instances the poorer parishioners have erected school houses by a voluntary subscription among themselves."—And in the return from the Union of Kilbride and Multifarnham, in the diocese of Meath, a more remarkable fact is stated, namely, that a night school was kept at Multifarnham, "to accommodate the children obliged to labour in the day:" at which school one hundred and thirteen children are returned as attend-

ing. The clergyman who makes this return, gives it as his opinion, "that the parents, in the choice of a master, are governed more by his merit and proximity, than by his religion, though, all circumstances equal, they would prefer a master of their own religion." And in a return from the parish of Lea, diocese of Kildare, a fact is stated, which seems to corroborate this opinion, viz.—"That the parish school was flourishing, until a Roman Catholic priest encouraged a Roman Catholic to set up a school in opposition to it, and was at first successful in drawing off such pupils as were Roman Catholics. And further, that charges having been fabricated against the Protestant parish school master, which occasioned his dismissal; another was appointed, who shortly after dying, the former master was recalled, and replaced at the request of those very people who had exhibited the false charges against him, and who solicited his return, as the Roman Catholic school-master had disappointed their hopes." It certainly, however, appears from our returns, that religious prejudices in too many parts of this country, but more particularly in the south and west, have operated against the attendance on the parish schools. For very many instances are stated of Roman Catholic children who had attended them, having been withdrawn by order of their priests, and never suffered to return; and a very strong instance of a mutual religious prejudice in this respect, is stated in a return from the parish of Ballesidare, diocese of Killa, namely, that "there seems to be a general determination in that parish on the part of the Roman Catholics, not to send their children to Protestant schools, and *vice versa*." But we observe in the other returns from the same dio-

case, that Protestant and Roman Catholic children are mixed in the parish as well as in the other schools; we find also in the other dioceses, Protestant children returned as going to schools kept by Roman Catholics; and from the general returns from all the dioceses, it is evident, that a large proportion of the children attending the parish schools throughout Ireland, are of the Roman Catholic religion.

We shall now conclude this report, by submitting the following observations to your Grace's consideration :

First, That for the original objects of their institution, namely, the introduction and diffusion of the English language in Ireland, the parish schools can no longer be deemed necessary.

Second, That for the purposes to which they were afterwards converted, namely, the advancement of the Protestant religion, and the education of the lower classes, they have proved in a certain degree useful, where they have been continued, but in both respects inadequate, on account of the extent and population of the several parishes; so that in truth, if one school were well established within each benefice or union, unless the children were forced to be educated as the act expresses, at such places where they could learn the English tongue, it would ill supply the want of instruction to the inhabitants, who for the most part live not collected in villages and hamlets, but in abodes dispersed through the range of perhaps 10,000 Irish acres. No one establishment could be placed so central as not to be inconveniently distant from many who would wish to attend it for daily instruction. Children of tender years, though of sufficient age to be capable of learning, cannot go very far from home for educa-

tion; the impediments in the way are obvious, even if a difference of religious persuasion did not create further obstacles.

Third, that the present imperfect state of the greater number of the parish schools, has arisen from various causes, which it has not been in the power of the clergy to counteract; and that their efforts to establish schools in their respective districts, taught by Protestant masters, have necessarily been attended with difficulty, and frequently with disappointment, from the want of masters, from the want of funds, from the want of co-operation, from the want of buildings and accommodation, which, if provided, could not for any length of time be supported, as there is no provision by the laws for repairs. To which we may add, the insufficiency of the stipend which general usage has so long established, and which even in that proportion, cannot legally be demanded. These circumstances will fully account, why the proportion of parish schools is so much below the number of benefices or unions in Ireland.

With respect to the oath before-mentioned, taken by the clergy at institution, to keep, or cause to be kept, an English school according to the provisions of the act of Henry the eighth, we have to observe, that from the great change that has taken place in the circumstances which gave occasion to its enactment, and for which it was intended to provide, a literal observance of it seems not only to be no longer necessary, but even possible; and that from the little advantage to be expected, were the clergy to comply only literally with its legal injunction, and from the difficulties which stand in the way of a general compliance with it in any sense; it may deserve consideration

whether it should be continued to be administered, or whether, in consequence of that total change in the situation of the lower classes, whom these schools were designed to civilize, and to teach to speak, rather than to read English, the clergy ought not to be relieved from the obligation thus imposed on them, by a repeal of that part of the statute which imposes it. Yet in those parishes where parochial schools are already established, or could be so, we are of opinion, it would be proper that some measure should be adopted for the continuance of the present, and the encouragement of future similar establishments, as far as may be practicable.

But we are fully persuaded of their inadequacy, as a system of general education of the poor, even if it were practicable to establish an effective one in every union.

And this inadequacy is the reason of our not entering more fully into the consideration of any plan for put-

ting them into a more effective situation, as such a plan might possibly interfere with or be superseded by a general system for the education of the poor, the consideration of which is reserved for the conclusion of our labours. We shall nevertheless at present observe, that not any funds however great, or the best considered establishment, can substantially carry into effect either any improvement in the parish schools, or any general system of instruction of the lower orders of the community, until the want of persons duly qualified to undertake the education of the lower classes be remedied, and till some institution be formed to prepare persons for that important office.

Council-Chamber, Dublin Castle, &c.
Nov. 24, 1810.

(Signed.) WILLIAM ARMAGH. (L.S.)
ISAAC COWRY. (L.S.)
JAMES KILLALLA. (L.S.)
GEO. HALL PROVOST. (L.S.)
WM. DISNEY. (L.S.)
J. LESLIE FOSTER. (L.S.)

APPENDIX.

An abstract of the returns of Parish Schools, made to the Board of Education.

Number of BENEFICES in each Diocese.	DIOCESES.	No. of Benefices from which Returns have been received.	No. of Pa- rish schools returned.	No. of Parish school hou- ses return- ed.	No. of Scholars returned as attending Parish Schools.
69 - -	Armagh - -	61	57	33	2,354
86 - -	Dublin City - -	20	20	20	534
	and				
	Dublin and				
	Glandelagh - -	57	49	27	1,782
23 - -	Tuam - -	14	9	- - -	261
	and				
24 - -	Ardagh - -	15	14	7	923
47 - -	Cashel - -	22	15	4	457
99 - -	Meath - -	47	33	16	1,423
88 - -	Limerick - -	20	20	- - -	813
20 - -	Killalla - -	11	8	- - -	397
15 - -	Clonfert - -	8	4	- - -	213
30 - -	Kilmore - -	30	28	7	1,331
20 - -	Killaloe - -	42	24	2	764
551	- - -	347	275	116	11,252

651		347	275	116	11,268
31	Kildare	27	16	3	415
68	Down & Con-	28	20	19	681
	nor				
80	Leighlin	37	26	11	798
	and				
	Ferns	43	27	14	1,897
29	Elphin	23	10	2	353
69	Cloyne	43	18	2	655
44	Waterford	7	8	1	235
43	Derry	86	85	15	1,426
24	Dromore	23	24	13	1,157
64	Cork	42	21	2	752
41	Clogher	41	40	19	1,707
56	Ossory	11	8	4	260
28	Raphoe	28	31	18	1,416
Total, 1,125		736	549	233	23,006

(A Correct Copy.)

JOHN CORNEILLE, Sec. to the Board of Education.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

MEDICAL REMARKS.

IT is a medical truth, more known than practised, that chronic diseases require chronic remedies. Indeed, as Bacon long ago observed, medicine is a science more professed than laboured, more laboured than advanced, the labour being in circle, rather than progression, and the novelty being more in manner than in kind. To cure a chronic disease by a grain or two; or a drop or two; to remove totally a confirmed gout by two drachms of l'eau medicinale; or to cure a confirmed consumption by some bottles of vegetable balsam; these are the miracles of modern superstition, the wretched credulities which set a civilized age almost below the level of a barbarous one.

But there is a class of diseases, of which that last mentioned is an example, which are neither curable by remedies nor regimen applied solely to the individual, neither by the temporary and temporizing prescription of the physician, nor by the appropriate use of the elements, in which regimen consists. There is indeed an innocent physician of the name of Lambe, who proposes to cure, ef-

fectually, consumption, cancer, and I believe other constitutional complaints, by the exclusive use of one of the elements, viz: distilled water, which at least bids as fair as all the druggery of shops.

But the truth, in reality, is, whatever practitioners may profess, and however patients may confide, that the cure of the large class of maladies called constitutional, is seldom, if ever, effected, when once they have taken place. A chronic disease requires a chronic remedy. But the constitution which pre-disposes to consumption is curable not in the individual, but in the course of generations. It is only to be attained by the slow and gradual change, for the better, of the constitution which has been deteriorated, and that depends, in no trifling degree, on a change in the frame, or at least in the habits of society itself. The constitution of individuals is much affected by the organization of civil society. Thus a large manufacturing town is often the seminary of that debility of the animal fibre, which brings on the pthysical conformation as well as temperament, and then becomes transmissible to the offspring.

In the vegetable œconomy, we find that frequent and judicious changes of seed, are of the greatest importance in improving the quality of the grain. And even the good *habitus* acquired by seeds taken from better kinds of soil, and somewhat better climates, may be continued long after their removal to inferior situations. Analogy is not always sound argument, but there appears much ground for an application, in the present instance, to animal life.

Some ingenious authors have supposed, that different races of men might be bred for different uses. Some whole races appear born for the sword, and others for the pen, or for inferior handicraft. Were we to take as much pains with the human race, as we frequently do with that of our horses, we might probably succeed as well. We might have military colonies of mountaineers, and a particular breed of men for each profession of importance. Man may be bred up to any degree of excellence; and may he, also, *bred downward* to every degree of either bodily or mental debasement. There is an aristocracy in the human race, which is apt to contemplate with distaste, and to reject with disdain, all analogy between itself and inferior animals, of whom man, *himself*, has declared, that ever since the creation, he got the complete away and disposal, but let him lord it as he will over the rest of the creation, he is but an animal at best, and at worst, a very contemptible one.

There is an acquired pre-disposition to disease, which *gradually* becomes transmissible and hereditary. In compensation, I think it extremely probable, that the cultivation of virtuous manners, through a course of generations, will, at last, become congenite, affecting the early organization of the brain; but that, in

the same way, a debasement and degradation of the mental power may, at length, become like a hereditary disease, transmissible to posterity. He, therefore, who habituates his nature to vice and servility may impress a proclivity to it on his yet unborn child; and the nation, repeat it, the nation, which for a century or two has debased itself by indolence, or brutalized itself by servitude, will have little chance of regeneration by its internal energy. Thus the perfectibility of our nature is such, that it may, in the individual, and more readily in the mass, be bred up to any thing, and, in the descending scale, it may be bred down, until the animal organization become vitiated; and then a nation may as certainly tend to corruption, as an individual succeeds to the inheritance of consumption.

Some may laugh at the idea of an aptitude to virtue being inheritable. The King of Siam laughed heartily when the Dutch ambassador told him, that the water in his country was often as hard as a stone, and that the people walked upon it. I, however, take it as an undoubted fact, that tempers and dispositions are hereditary, as much as the features of the face; and if the external forms of the head and face be often transmitted from parents to children, why not the form and minute organization of the brain, on which the first lines, the "*primæ lineæ*" of characters are traced? There may be a pre-disposition in the mental organ to the reception, connexion, and cultivation of certain impressions and ideas rather than others, a pre-disposition, which forms the primary links in the chain of habit, and which may be deemed the germ of the future character.

As far then as virtue is complexional, and is dependent on temper and dispositions, it is certainly

inmissible as much as a choleric, melancholy temperament; and as virtue consists in a more ended, and cultivated reason, it depend upon a sound and healthy organization of the brain. Crimes may be justly deemed par- insanities, and most probably originate from physical defects, which either lie dormant, or be de- pressed in a greater or less degree, according to the circumstances in which we are placed, or in other words, according to the education receive. Virtue is the health of mental organ, (*Sanitas est vir- Tusc 4. 13.*), and what is called a bad heart, always betrays an sound intellect. And I conclude, that a healthy conformation of the body, may as certainly be inheri- table as a sound conformation of the liver or the lungs.

Some indeed think of the mind as a certain volatile being, which, at some undefined moment, flies into the body, and after taking its habi- tation there for some years, flies off again, as a bird from its cage; but others, perhaps as justly, think it the result of a particular organiza- tion, suited to receive, retain, mo- dify, and associate impressions re- ceived through the organs of sense, and such modifications or *phases* of the mental organ, are denominated per- ception, attention, memory, fancy, action, &c.

It is observed, that broad shouldered men have broad shouldered chil- dren. Now as labour always strength- ens the muscles employed, and in- creases their bulk, it would seem that a few generations of labour or of idleness, may in this respect change the form and temperament of the body. It is, in this manner, the continual residence for several generations in certain places, under unfavourable circumstances, and in unhealthy employments, that

proclivities to particular diseases are brought on by gradual malconforma- tion of particular organs, such as of the liver, the lungs, &c. and of the parts containing them, or by that general debility and laxity of fibre, which pre-disposes to constitutional disease, and becomes at length a he- reditary one.

It is remarked by an author, whose merits are far from having been adequately appreciated by the pre- sent age, that it is owing to the im- perfection of language, the offspring is termed a new animal, but is, in truth, a branch or elongation of the present, since a part of the embryon animal is or was a part of the parent, and therefore, in strict language, it cannot be said to be entirely *new* at the time of its production—and, therefore, it may retain some of the habits of the parent system.

On the whole, there is some rea- son to think that the general state of the animal economy may be con- siderably influenced by that of the political economy, and that an ill- constructed organization of the hu- man frame, with the chronic and he- reditary complaints consequent upon such deterioration, is ascribable, much oftner perhaps than suspected, to the evil organization of human society. Thus the financier, who raises his temporary revenue from the intoxi- cation of the people, not only cor- rupts the morals of the present ge- neration, but lays the foundation of that physical debility, which is en- tailed in various forms of disease upon remote posterity, and which is only curable by adopting through the same number of generations, a mode of life more agreeable to nature. A modern financier has no respect to posterity; he burthens it with debt, and he burthens it with disease.

* Cicero defines health excellently well, when he calls it, *Corporis temperantia cum ea congruant inter se, e quibus com- petamus.*

In ancient times, there were fewer manufactures, but a less morbid population, fewer artisans, but a healthier community, a more universal enjoyment of the natural elements, a more perpetual use of air and exercise, which is in itself the best preservative, and nature's prophylactic, against the chronic debility that pre-disposes to the *primary* production of transmitted disease. Agriculture was the chief manufacture of ancient times, and certainly it is the most favourable not only to the possession of health, but the transmission of it to posterity. The Fabii, Lentuli, Cicerones, recognized their agricultural ancestors in their very names, (unlike our modern nobility, who seem desirous of concealing their names under a new title!), and kept in memory the very *grains* which they cultivated, with most success. "We may talk," says the virtuous and amiable Cowley, "we may talk what we please of Lions rampant, and spread eagles in fields d'or, or d'argent, but if heraldry were guided by reason and nature, a *plough*, in a *field-arable*, would be the most noble and ancient arms."

If therefore we are to propose a cure that will prove perfect and radical, for such maladies as the consumptive habit, we will find it *only* in the thorough change of constitution, wrought by a total change of occupation or mode of life, into one where there will be found a more constant and complete use of what has been nonsensically termed the non-naturals, and this continued not merely through one, but *several* generations. Thus, for example, if father, son, and grandson, should become seamen, or pursue through life the cultivation of the ground, I have little doubt that the narrow chest would expand, and the debile fibre would be condensed, and the due balance of the circulating sys-

tem would be preserved through the critical periods of life.

In a medical point of view, I have therefore supposed that EMIGRATION was often of great eventual benefit to the health as well as happiness of the human species, and that what at first sight, and what in reality is distressing, in the first instance, to the individuals concerned, may *in the result*, through the goodness of Providence, which brings real good from apparent evil, prove an advantageous circumstance, to correct, to re-invigorate, and renew the energy and vitality of the human frame, and to give it the best chance of getting free from that proclivity to particular maladies, for which transient doses of medicine and even the most careful regimen is too often of little avail.

"Often when I plough my low ground," said the American farmer, "I place my boy on a chair which screws to the beam of the plough. Its motion, and that of the horse please him. He is perfectly happy and begins to chat. As I lean over the handle, various are the thoughts which crowd into my mind." This is a subject for a picture which might have worthily exercised the pencil of Gainsborough, and which the goddess Hygeia herself might have delighted to contemplate. Alas! what a contrast might have been afforded to the same artist from many of our cotton and other manufactories crowded with morbid life, and premature labour, the remote cause of chronic and constitutional disease.

In the same point of view, even war itself may turn out a partial blessing. In ancient times every citizen was a soldier, and though the superfluity of labour was much less, the physical power, and health of the community was comparatively greater than in modern states, where immoderate industry supports im-

moderate luxury, and the one portion famishes while the other fattens, both verging to disease. PUBLIC SPIRIT was, then, the animating soul, that ventilated, invigorated, and inspired every order in the community. The modern enlistment of soldiery certainly rescues the prime of life from *morbific* manufactures; and it may be deemed a thirst of nature which actuates youth to free itself from the slow decline and degeneration of the workshop, for a more healthy and happier mode of life, though it may be thus curtailed in duration: Military discipline is, in many respects, a moral discipline, and, in its privations and perils becomes the school of *men*. Thus, the most effectual cure, and best means of checking the fatal progress of many chronic maladies, and particularly of the *consumptive* habit, is to be sought for, and only to be found, in a complete, and *continued* mutation in the modes of life, and in those occasional dispersions of the human race, which, in their event, bring about a radical reform, and salutary revolution of the animal economy.

SALUS PUBLICA.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine;

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSTITUTION IN DUBLIN, FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICAL AID TO THE SICK POOR, AND ASSISTING THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE DURING SICKNESS; AND FOR PREVENTING THE SPREADING OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

THE committee, in addressing the public, for the present year, will state some facts sufficient, they hope to produce that support which at this period becomes peculiarly necessary.

BELFAST MAG. NO. XXXV.

In the account exhibited to the public last year of the income and expenditure of this institution, the expenditure exceeding the income rather more than one hundred pounds. In that now presented, the committee have to regret the same circumstance to the amount of £32 11s. 4½d. and that there is a sum of £76 14s. due to their treasurer, which from the first of the present year, the period to which the account is made up, and that which the subscriptions become payable has been considerably increased, so that at the last mentioned period there was £149 4s. due to him.

The subscriptions for 1810 have decreased; this circumstance indeed was to be expected from the extraordinary distress felt by the trading world, from this cause a considerable proportion of subscriptions can now no longer continue, the committee therefore entreat that those whom divine providence has preserved from feeling the shock materially, and those in a peculiar and forcible degree who are not subject to the pressure consequent upon the want of trade, to consider the necessity of coming forward with additional and new subscriptions to support this institution, which the committee can assure them, affords the poor much salutary assistance, and they have much pleasure in stating that the physicians have discharged their duty in a manner calculated to impress the poor objects, they have had under their care, with a just sense of the great relief experienced from the institution.

The number of patients have increased for several years past; 1810, shows a number on the books of the institution of 1006 more than 1809, the want of employment felt by the poor in this period, and the reduction of the price of spirituous liquors from the effects of the dis-

timely regulations of last year, must, the committee conceive, have had a tendency to produce this increase; drunkenness which appears prevalent to an alarming degree, making the body more susceptible of disease, and less able of support under it.

The committee are unwilling to close this report without stating clearly to

the subscribers and public that while the number of patients have been for some years gradually increasing, the subscriptions have been at the same time falling off, and therefore they again entreat that funds may be afforded to support the institution in undiminished usefulness.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE INSTITUTION FOR RELIEF OF THE SICK POOR AND THEIR FAMILIES, FROM 1st NOVEMBER, 1809, TILL 1st NOVEMBER, 1810.

EXPENDITURE.				INCOME.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Distribution to sick poor	-	38	9 11½	Subscriptions received in the			
Medicines	-	208	7 5½	year 1810	-	487	10 3
Stationary	-	52	10 8	Donations in do.	-	22	5 0
Contingencies	-	4	4 9½	Interest on Ballast office de-			
Coals and Candles	-	36	6 10	bentures	-	66	0 0
Utensils for wear and tear	-	1	16 4½	Stock decreased this year	-	82	11 4½
Furniture for do.	-	3	18 5½				
Repairs and alterations	-	2	12 8				
Rent for one year	-	40	0 0				
Salaries	-	291	0 0				
		<u>£658</u>	<u>6 7½</u>			<u>£658</u>	<u>6 7½</u>
BELONGING TO.				DUE BY THE INSTITUTION.			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Medicines valued at	-	18	0 8	For salaries to the medical			
Furniture ditto	-	43	3 1	officers, apothecary and			
Utensils ditto	-	20	0 1½	register	-	41	13 4
Ballast office debentures	-	1097	4 8½	Medicines to Gresham and			
		<u>£1178</u>	<u>8 7</u>	Carmichael	-	19	18 11½
				Treasurer for amount due			
Patients admitted since the				him	-	76	14 0
commencement	-	84,063		Net property of the insti-			
Of whom have been admit-				tution	-	1040	2 3½
ted within the last year	-	9,075				<u>£1178</u>	<u>8 7</u>

Signed by order of a general meeting of Subscribers, 5th December, 1801.

ALEXANDER MACGILLIVRAE.

MEDICAL REPORT.

Physicians { Doctor DUANE,
CARROLL,
LITTON,
O'BRIEN,
LLOYD,

Surgeon, SAMUEL WILMOT.
Apothecary, RICHARD ASTON.

Register and Collector of Subscriptions. } HENRY HARRIS.

LIST OF DISEASES FROM THE 1ST OF JANUARY, 1810, TILL 1ST JANUARY, 1811.

ACUTE DISEASES.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April.	May.	June.	July.	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Abortus	1	1	7	3	1	2	3	3	2	5	2	2	32
Apoplexia	1	—	1	—	1	3	—	1	—	1	...	...	8
Arthralgia Renum	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	...	...	...	4
Abcessus	8	9	9	6	7	8	5	9	15	9	4	10	99
Catarrhus	13	43	123	79	45	12	10	6	24	12	12	22	401
Carditis	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	...	1	...	5
Cholera	6	7	9	9	5	2	9	16	8	2	2	11	86
Convulsio	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	...	3	...	8
Colica	2	4	7	8	8	6	3	8	14	16	8	8	87
Cynanche Tonsillarum	9	15	7	9	6	14	7	—	8	9	7	18	113
— Parotidæ	—	2	1	—	1	—	2	—	2	1	5	1	15
— Maligna	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	5	...	5
— Trachealis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	...	...	...	1
Cystitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	6	...	7
Dysenteria	9	8	10	7	8	9	4	4	16	20	3	3	101
Enteritis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	1	1	3
Rysipelas	4	14	5	3	6	1	5	5	12	6	2	7	70
Epistaxis	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	...	1	8
Febris Synochus	57	59	55	57	96	99	91	116	106	99	86	48	969
— Infant. Remittens	—	8	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	...	...	9
— Puerper	—	5	3	2	3	—	3	1	—	...	6	1	24
— Typhus	23	7	13	20	21	55	32	50	47	36	44	10	358
Gastritis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	...	...	...	1
Hepatitis	6	—	1	—	3	2	2	—	—	7	1	1	23
Hæmatæmia	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	...	...	3	5
Hæmoptoe	1	3	5	10	6	12	7	7	2	5	2	6	68
Hæmorrhagia Uteri	—	2	6	3	—	4	6	3	...	...	8	2	29
Hysteritis	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	...	...	...	1
Hydrocephalus	—	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	...	...	...	1	7
Ischuria	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	1	1	...	...	...	9
Mammitis	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	...	...	...	...	4
Morbilli	6	—	—	5	4	—	—	11	29	42	16	1	114
Omentitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	...	...	...	...	1
Ophthalmia	19	15	18	15	21	14	24	16	26	20	10	13	201
Otitis	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	6
Pemphigus	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	...	...	...	3
Peripneumonia notha	12	10	7	4	26	7	13	1	6	7	13	17	123
Peritonitis	—	1	6	—	—	—	1	—	...	1	...	...	9
— puerper	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	...	...	...	...	5
Pertussis	—	5	—	7	2	—	—	—	...	1	1	...	16
Phrenitis	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	31	66	47	44	39	31	17	10	21	30	38	36	410
Rheumatismus	14	18	33	26	17	27	18	14	11	32	20	15	245
Scarlatina	1	1	—	—	2	2	1	1	5	2	1	1	17
Varicellæ	3	—	—	—	1	3	5	7	9	12	3	1	44
Urticaria	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	...	...	...	...	5
Total.	230	309	293	321	335	316	278	293	377	377	306	261	3760

CHRONIC DISEASES.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Amaurosis	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	9
Amenorrhæa	17	12	6	4	26	46	32	26	5	15	12	6	209
Anasarca	3	12	18	8	8	7	6	5	7	7	7	15	103
Aphæ	3	2	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	11
Arthrodynia	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Asthenia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	6
Ascites	3	3	8	5	6	7	7	4	4	5	5	4	61
Asthma	16	48	40	14	4	15	20	17	7	6	33	51	270
Blennorrhagia	1	1	1	4	2	2	3	4	2	2	2	2	27
Calculus Renum	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	6
Caligo	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2
Cardialgia	...	...	2	...	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	10
Cephalæa	6	8	17	18	12	9	20	7	10	11	23	10	151
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	7
Diarrhæa	15	11	19	8	5	8	6	7	18	27	9	17	143
Dolores post partum	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3
Dyspnæa	18	19	7	18	35	23	15	7	10	10	39	21	222
Dysenteria	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	1	7
Dyspepsia	16	41	53	44	24	46	31	28	18	18	16	85	379
Dysmenorrhæa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Dyseczæ	...	...	2	1	3	3	1	...	1	...	2	1	14
Dysuria	2	4	3	1	3	2	6	3	4	3	2	1	32
Elephantiasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Enuresis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	6
Epilepsia	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	1	4	...	1	10
Enterodynia	...	...	1	3	6	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	16
Gastrodynia	...	2	...	2	3	...	...	1	2	1	...	...	11
Hæmorrhoids	2	6	2	3	2	1	5	2	4	2	3	2	33
Hæmaturia	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7
Hemicrania	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Hepatitis	...	2	4	2	1	...	1	...	2	2	2	...	16
Hemiplegia	...	...	1	1	...	4	...	1	...	2	...	...	9
Herpes	6	16	9	16	11	14	9	9	9	4	13	20	136
Hysteria	1	...	5	2	3	2	...	1	5	1	5	3	28
Hydrothorax	1	3	5	3	2	1	1	1	...	1	...	5	23
Hydrops Ovarii	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hypochondriasis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	...	...	...	7
Icterus	...	3	1	...	3	...	1	...	...	2	...	1	11
Impetigo	...	7	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ischias	5	4	2	2	3	5	4	1	1	3	...	9	39
Leucorrhæa	13	6	10	2	5	12	8	9	3	22	2	9	77
Lepra vulgaris	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6
Lichen	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	4
Lienteria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Lumbago	13	14	36	11	16	13	12	13	5	6	13	14	166
Mania	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	2	...	8
Marasmus	2	16	16	10	17	18	...	2	4	1	1	4	84
Menorrhagia	...	1	5	1	2	11	6	8	3	4	1	2	44
Morbus Pedicularis	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Œdema	2	1	11	2	5	7	4	4	2	3	5	2	49
Obstipatio	24	45	26	29	49	21	23	17	14	8	17	35	308
Obstipititis Torticollis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
Odontalgia	1	...	...	...	1	...	6	1	1	...	...	...	22
	174	288	313	222	267	282	241	190	162	180	223	284	2816

	174	288	313	222	267	282	241	190	162	180	222	284	2810
Opacitas Cornæ	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2
Oralgia	...	...	1	...	2	3	3	2	...	2	2	1	16
Palpitatio	4	4	3	4	4	18	12	10	6	20	7	...	75
Paralysis	3	2	2	1	1	...	1	...	3	4	3	2	29
Petechiæ	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Phlegmone	6	7	7	8	12	7	16	10	6	20	11	2	112
Podagra	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Porrigo	2	3	...	1	2	...	1	8	...	1	...	...	18
Psoriasis	3	18	35	15	19	3	11	5	12	9	10	11	151
Prolapsus ani	...	2	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	9
Uteri	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	3
Prurigo Senilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	2	2	...	...	...	9
Psora	3	6	8	11	13	14	5	13	15	1	4	7	100
Psorophthalmia	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	4
Ptyalismus	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rachitis	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Rheumatismus	17	19	25	25	21	26	19	10	28	15	6	1	251
Scrophula	...	...	1	6	1	2	2	...	...	...	1	2	15
Syphilis	...	2	3	2	3	3	...	1	1	...	2	...	17
Spasmi Atonici	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tabes mesenterica	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tœnia lata	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	1	...	5	...	12	22
Tenesmus	...	6	...	...	1	15	5	4	4	7	...	1	43
Trismus dolorificus	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5
Tussis	117	118	43	73	82	17	62	47	17	45	118	65	849
Tympanites	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Verres	9	9	10	12	6	13	16	20	13	5	2	9	124
Vomitus	2	5	5	5	8	8	8	6	4	8	1	3	62
Urticaria	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2
CHRONIC	344	494	461	393	445	415	397	328	274	324	390	400	4736
ACUTE	230	309	393	321	335	316	278	293	377	377	306	311	3768
SURGICAL	72	57	71	80	84	92	78	99	107	77	57	69	943
GRAND TOTAL	646	860	925	794	864	823	753	720	758	778	753	710	9446

The excellent observations annexed to the preceding annual catalogues, on the character, causes, and treatment of the diseases therein enumerated, have rendered any comment on the present almost superfluous, nor can it be necessary to make any other appeal to the humanity of the public, in favour of this institution, than the exhibition of the list, of more than nine thousand of the most wretched members of society, relieved by its operation, from the most oppressive part of the burden of poverty; such a list will prove, that the generosity of those who have hitherto been its supporters has not been ill directed, by

demonstrating the necessity of such an institution, and the success which has attended its benevolent efforts. It will be a source of additional gratification, upon examining the nature of the diseases enumerated in this report, to find, that they are chiefly in that class which most imperiously demands, and at the same time yields most certainly to the aid of medicine.

The amount of our patients in the present catalogue, appears to exceed considerably, that in any former report. Indeed the year 1810 was one peculiarly calamitous to the unfortunate objects of our institution; it is well known to the public

through the reports published by the committee of the Cork-street Fever Hospital, that a fever was diffused through the lowest rank of the population of this city, to an extent which could be but imperfectly counteracted by that comprehensive institution. This may, in part, have arisen from the circumstances of our national distresses, although other causes must have contributed their influence, as the diseases appeared to be most readily communicated to children. Although this epidemic was so extensive in its range, it was not attended with any uncommon symptoms, and therefore did not require any peculiarity of treatment; attention to the state of the *prima via*, in the first stages of the disease, and the moderate use of cordials in the latter, proving generally salutary.

The great and sudden changes of temperature throughout every part of the year, produced those disorders which have contributed to swell the present catalogue to so large an amount. Of most of these the treatment is so well understood as to render it unnecessary to offer any remark of my own, and it is painful to advert to the rest, against which the resources of medicine have been but too unsuccessfully directed. I shall only therefore observe with respect to one of these, that I have found, that *aloetic* purgatives have often afforded very remarkable relief in both the *acute* and the *chronic forms of rheumatism*. After a free use of these, the *cinchona* either alone, or combined with the tartrate of *antimony* has rarely failed to relieve the most obstinate attacks. This last combination indeed seems to merit attention as a very powerful diaphoretic.

In intermittent fevers accompanied with inflammatory affections of the lungs, when the use of the *cincho-*

na alone, would probably have been injurious, the addition of the tartrate of antimony has allowed it to be used freely with considerable advantage.

Although the number of cases of *small pox* continues to be nearly the same in our annual reports, it is evident that it bears a continually decreasing proportion to the others on the list. A sufficient proof that the disease is gradually yielding to the influence of the vaccine antidote.

In our reports we have constantly reason to express our chagrin at the disappointment we often meet with in our efforts to subdue the various forms of the *dropsy*, a disease to which the poor inhabitants of Dublin are peculiarly subject. The usual routine of practice is well known, and is too often tried in vain upon our patients to allow us much ground for confidence; many of our palliatives contribute to increase that debility of the system, which so often pre-disposes to this dangerous malady, and the medicines which are found most efficacious in some instances; proving of little avail in others. Hence, it is not without diffidence that I mention, that the use of *nitrous acid* has appeared to me to remove the complaint from some, to whom all the usual medicines had been administered with unavailing assiduity. It is known that this acid often unites the virtues of a tonic and diuretic.—In many of the forms of *dyspepsia*, the use of the same acid has procured an obvious and long continued relief; in a few others, frictions over the stomach, especially with the *oleum ammoniacum*, have been attended with sensible advantage; it is unnecessary to add, that, unloading the first passages and maintaining their healthy action, by the operation of cathartics, are of the highest importance.

The term *neurasmus* has been as-

signed, in many instances, to that congeries of symptoms so well described by Dr. Hamilton in his valuable work on the use of Purgatives. To the ample testimony in favour of the extensive employment of these medicines in this disease, the result of the practice of this dispensary, might, if necessary give additional weight. It ought not however to be concealed that in some cases,

after a long use of cathartics, the cure has appeared to be accelerated by the administration of antimonial diaphoretics.

Such are the few remarks, which a desire to comply with custom, rather than any conviction of their importance has induced me to offer on the diseases which have fallen under my own inspection.

York-street.

S. L.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

AN EULOGIUM ON PRÉSIDENT MONTESQUIEU; BY MONSIEUR D'ALEMBERT.

CHARLES DE SECONDAT, Baron of La Brede and Montesquieu, late president a *Mortier* of the parliament of Bourdeaux, member of the French academy, of the royal academy of sciences and belles lettres of Prussia, and of the royal society of London, was born at the castle of La Brede, near Bourdeaux, the 18th of January, 1689, of a noble family of Guyenne. His great-grandfather, John de Secondat, steward of the household to Henry the second, king of Navarre, and afterwards to Jane daughter of that king, who married Antony of Bourbon, purchased the estate of Montesquieu for the sum of 10,000 livres, which this princess gave him by an authentic deed, as a reward for his probity and services.

Henry the third, king of Navarre, afterwards Henry fourth, king of France, erected the lands of Montesquieu into a barony, in favour of Jacob de Secondat, son of John, first one of the gentlemen in ordinary of the bed-chamber to this prince, and afterwards colonel of the regiment of Chatillon. John Gaston de Secondat, his second son, having married a daughter of the first pre-

sident of the parliament of Bourdeaux, purchased the office of president a *Mortier* in this society. He had several children, one of whom entered into the service, distinguished himself in it, and quitted it very early in life. This was the father of Charles de Secondat, author of the *Spirit of Laws*. These particulars may perhaps appear misplaced, at the beginning of the *Eloge* of a philosopher, whose name stands so little in need of ancestors; but let us not envy their memory that éclat which this name reflects upon it.

The early marks of his genius, a presage sometimes so deceitful, was not so in Charles de Secondat; he discovered very soon what he one day would be, and his father employed all his attention to cultivate this rising genius, the object of his hope and of his tenderness. At the age of twenty, young Montesquieu already prepared materials for the *Spirit of Laws*, by a well digested extract from those immense volumes which compose the body of the civil law: thus heretofore Newton laid in his early youth the foundation of works, which have rendered him immortal. The study of juris-prudence, however, though less dry to M. de Montesquieu, than to the most part

of those who apply to it, because he studied it as a philosopher, was not sufficient for the extent and activity of his genius. He inquired deeply, at the same time, into subjects still more important and more delicate,* and discussed them in silence, with that wisdom, with that decency, and with that equity, which he has since discovered in his works.

A brother of his father, president *a Mortier* of the parliament of Bourdeaux, an able judge and virtuous citizen, the oracle of his own society and of his province, having lost an only son, and wanting to preserve in his own corps, that elevated spirit, which he had endeavoured to infuse into it, left his fortune and his office to M. de Montesquieu. He had been one of the counsellors of the parliament of Bourdeaux, since the 24th of February, 1714, and was received president *a Mortier* the 13th of July, 1716.

Some years after, in 1722, during the king's minority, his society employed him to present remonstrances upon occasion of a new impost. Placed between the throne and the people, he filled, like a respectful subject, and courageous magistrate, the employment, so noble, and so little envied, of making the cries of the unfortunate reach the Sovereign: the public misery, represented with as much address, as force of argument, obtained that justice which it demanded. This success, 'tis true, much more unfortunately for the state than for him, was of as short continuance, as if it had been unjust. Scarcely had the voice of the people ceased to be heard, but the impost, which had been suppressed, was replaced by another:

but the good citizen had done his duty.

He was received the 3d of April, 1716, into the academy of Bourdeaux, which was then only beginning. A taste for music, and for works of pure entertainment, had at first assembled together the members who composed it. M. de Montesquieu believed, with reason, that the rising ardour and talents of his friends might be employed with still greater advantage in physical subjects. He was persuaded that nature, so worthy of being beheld every where, found also in all places eyes worthy of viewing her; that, on the contrary, works of taste, not admitting of mediocrity, and the metropolis, being the centre of men of abilities, and opportunities of improvement in this way, it was too difficult to gather together at a distance from it, a sufficient number of distinguished writers. He looked upon the societies for belles lettres, so strangely multiplied in our provinces, as a kind, or rather as a shadow of literary luxury, which is of prejudice to real opulence, without even presenting us with the appearance of it. Luckily the Duke de la Force, by a prize which he had just founded at Bourdeaux, seconded these rational and just designs. It was judged that an experiment properly made would be preferable to a weak discourse, or a bad poem; and Bourdeaux got an academy of sciences.

M. de Montesquieu, not at all eager to show himself to the public, seemed, according to the expression of a great genius, to wait for an age ripe for writing. It was not till 1721, that is to say, at 32 years of age, that he published the *Persian Letters*. The *Siamois*, and the serious and comic amusements, might have furnished him with the idea of it; but he excelled his model. The de-

* It was a work in the form of letters, the purpose of which was to prove that the idolatry of most of the Pagans did not appear to deserve eternal damnation.

scription of oriental manners, real or supposed, of the pride and phlegm of Asiatic love, is but the smallest object of these letters; it only serves, so to speak, as a pretence for a delicate satire upon our manners, and for treating of several important subjects, which the author went to the bottom of, while he only appeared to glance at them. In this kind of moving picture, Usbec chiefly exposes, with as much genteel easiness as energy, whatever amongst us most struck his penetrating eyes; our way of treating the most silly things seriously, and of turning the most important into a joke; our conversations which are so blustering and so frivolous; our impatience even in the midst of pleasure itself; our prejudices and our actions perpetually in contradiction with our understandings; so much love of glory joined with so much respect for the idol of court favour; our courtiers so mean and so vain; our exterior politeness to, and our real contempt of strangers, or our affected regard for them; the fantasticness of our tastes, than which there is nothing lower, but the eagerness of all Europe to adopt them; our barbarous disdain for the two most respectable occupations of a citizen, commerce and magistracy; our literary disputes so keen and so useless; our rage for writing before we think, and for judging before we understand. To this picture, which is lively but without malice, he opposes, in the apologue of the Troglodites, the description of a virtuous people, become wise by misfortunes. A piece worthy of the portico. In another place, he represents philosophy, which had been a long time smothered, appearing all of a sudden, regaining by a rapid progress, the time which he had lost; penetrating even amongst the Russians at the voice of a genius which invites her;

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while, among other people of Europe, superstition, like a thick atmosphere, prevents that light which surrounds them on all hands from reaching them. In fine, by the principles which he has established concerning the nature of ancient and modern government, he presents us with the bud of those bright ideas, which have been since developed by the author in his great work.

These different subjects, deprived at present of the graces of novelty which they had when the *Persian Letters* first appeared, will for ever preserve the merit of that original character which the author has had the art to give them. A merit by so much the more real, that in this case, it proceeds alone from the genius of the writer, and not from that foreign veil with which he covered himself: for Usbec acquired, during his abode in France, not only so perfect a knowledge of our morals, but even so strong a tincture of our manners, that his style makes us often forget his country. This small defect in point of probability, was perhaps not without design and address: when he was exposing our follies and vices, he wanted without doubt also to do justice to our advantages. He was fully conscious of the insipidity of a direct panegyric; he has more delicately praised us, by so often assuming our own air to satirize us more agreeably.

Notwithstanding the success of this work, M. de Montesquieu did not openly declare himself the author of it. Perhaps he thought that by this means he would more easily escape that literary satire, which spares anonymous writings the more willingly, because it is always the person and not the work which is the aim of its darts. Perhaps he was afraid of being attacked on account of the pretended contrast of the *Persian Letters* with the gravity of his office;

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"a sort of reproach," said he, "which critics never fail to make, because it requires no effort of genius." But his secret was discovered, and the public already pointed him out to the French academy. The event demonstrated how prudent M. de Montesquieu's silence had been. Usbec expresses himself sometimes freely enough, not concerning the fundamentals of christianity, but about matters which too many people affect to confound with christianity itself; about the spirit of persecution with which so many christians have been animated; about the temporal usurpations of ecclesiastic power; about the excessive multiplication of monasteries, which deprive the state of subjects, without giving worshippers to God; about some opinions which have in vain been attempted to be established as principles; about our religious disputes, always violent and always fatal. If he appears any where to touch upon more delicate questions, and which more nearly interest the christian religion, his reflections weighed with justice, are in fact very favourable to revelation; because he only shows how little human reason left to itself, knows concerning these subjects. In a word, among the genuine letters of M. de Montesquieu, the foreign printer had inserted some by another hand: and they ought at least, before the author was condemned, to have distinguished which properly belonged to him. Without regard to these considerations, on the one hand, hatred under the name of zeal, and on the other, zeal without discernment or understanding, rose and united themselves against the *Persian Letters*. Informers, a species of men dangerous and base, which even in a wise government are unfortunately sometimes listened to, alarmed, by an unfaithful extract, the piety of the ministry. M. de

Montesquieu, by the advice of his friends, supported by the public voice, having offered himself for that place in the French academy, vacant by the death of M. de Sacy; the minister wrote a letter to the academy, that his majesty would never agree to the election of the author of the *Persian Letters*: that he had not read the book; but that persons in whom he placed confidence, had informed him of their poisonous and dangerous tendency. M. de Montesquieu perceived what a stroke such an accusation might be to his person, his family, and the tranquillity of his life. He neither put so high a price upon literary honours, either keenly to seek them, or to affect to disdain them, when they came in his way, nor in a word, to regard the simple want of them as a misfortune. But a perpetual exclusion, and especially the motives of that exclusion, appeared to him to be an injury. He saw the minister, declared to him that for particular reasons he did not own the *Persian Letters*; but that he would be still farther from disowning a work for which he believed he had no reason to blush; and that he ought to be judged after a reading, and not upon an information: at last the minister did what he ought to have begun with;—he read the book, loved the author, and learned to place his confidence better. The French academy was not deprived of one of its greatest ornaments; and France had the happiness to preserve a subject which superstition or calumny was ready to deprive her of. For M. de Montesquieu had declared to the government, that after that kind of affront they were about to put upon him, he would go among foreigners, who with open arms offered to receive him; in quest of that safety, that repose, and perhaps those rewards, which

he might have hoped for in his own country. The nation would have deplored this loss, and the disgrace of it would notwithstanding have fallen upon it.

The late marshal D'Estrees, at that time director of the French academy, conducted himself upon this occasion like a virtuous courtier, and a person of truly elevated mind: he was neither afraid of abusing his credit, nor of endangering it; he supported his friend, and justified Socrates. This act of courage, so dear to learning, so worthy of being imitated at present, and so honourable to the memory of marshal D'Estrees, ought not to have been forgot in his panegyric.

M. de Montesquieu was received the 24th of January, 1728. His discourse is one of the best which has been pronounced upon a like occasion: its merit is by so much the greater, that those who were to be received, till then confined by those forms, and by those *Eloges* which were in use, and to which a kind of prescription subjected them, had not as yet dared to step over this circle to treat of other subjects, or had not at least thought of comprehending them in it. Even in this state of constraint he had the happiness to succeed. Amongst several strokes with which his discourse shines we may easily distinguish the deep thinking writer by the singular portrait of Cardinal Richlieu, *who taught France the secret of its strength, and Spain that of its weakness; who freed Germany from their chains, and gave her new ones.* We must admire Monsieur de Montesquieu for having been able to overcome the difficulty of his subject, and we ought to pardon those who have not had the same success.

The new academician was by so much the more worthy of this title, that he had not long before renounc-

ed every other business to give himself entirely up to his genius and taste. However important the place which he occupied was, with whatever judgment and integrity he might have fulfilled its duties, he perceived that there were objects more worthy of employing his talents; that a citizen is accountable to his country and to mankind for all the good which he can do; and that he could be more useful to the one and the other, by instructing them with his writings, than he could be by determining a few particular disputes in obscurity. All these reflections determined him to sell his office. He was no longer a magistrate, and was now only a man of letters.

But to render himself useful by his works to different nations, it was necessary that he should know them; it was with this view that he undertook to travel: his aim was to examine every where the natural and moral world, to study the laws and constitution of every country; to visit the learned, the writers, the celebrated artists; every where to seek for those rare and singular geniuses, whose conversation sometimes supplies the place of many years observation and residence. M. de Montesquieu might have said, like Democritus; "I have forgot nothing to instruct myself: I have quitted my country and travelled over the universe, the better to know truth: I have seen all illustrious personages of my time." But there was this difference between the French Democritus and him of Abdera, that the first travelled to instruct men, and the second to laugh at them.

He first went to Vienna, where he often saw the celebrated prince Eugene. This hero, so fatal to France (to which he might have been so useful) after having given a check to the fortune of Lewis XIV. and hum-

bled the Ottoman pride, lived during the peace without pomp, loving and cultivating letters in a court, where they are little honoured, and setting an example to his masters how they should protect them. M. de Montesquieu thought that he could discover in his conversation some remains of affection for his ancient country. Prince Eugene especially discovered it, as much as an enemy could, when he talked of the fatal consequences of that intestine division which has so long troubled the church of France: the statesman foresaw its duration and effects, and foretold it like a philosopher.

M. de Montesquieu left Vienna to visit Hungary, an opulent and fertile country, inhabited by a haughty and generous nation, the scourge of its tyrants, and the support of its sovereigns. As few persons know this country well, he has written with care this part of his travels.

From Germany he went to Italy. He saw at Venice the famous Mr. Law, who had nothing remaining of his grandeur, but projects fortunately destined to die away in his own head, and a diamond which he pawned to play at games of hazard. One day the conversation turned on the famous system which Law had invented; an epoch of so many calamities and so many great fortunes, and especially of a remarkable corruption in our morals. As the parliament of Paris, the immediate depository of the laws during a minority, had made some resistance to the Scotch minister on this occasion, M. de Montesquieu asked him why he had never tried to overcome this resistance by a method almost always infallible in England, by the grand mover of human actions, in a word, by money. "These are not," answered Law, "Geniuses so ardent and so generous as my countrymen; but they are much

more incorruptible." We shall add, without any prejudice of national vanity, that a society which is free for some short limited time, ought to resist corruption more, than one which is always so: the first when it sells its liberty loses it; the second, so to speak, only lends it, and exercises it even when it is doing so. Thus the circumstances and nature of government, give rise to the vices and virtues of nations.

Another person no less famous, whom M. de Montesquieu saw still oftener at Venice, was Count de Bonneval. This man, so known by his adventures, which were not yet at an end, and flattered with conversing with so good a judge, and one so worthy of hearing them, often related to him the remarkable circumstances of his life, recited the military actions in which he had been engaged, and drew the characters of those generals and ministers whom he had known. M. de Montesquieu often recalled to mind these conversations, and related different strokes of them to his friends.

He went from Venice to Rome. In this ancient capital of the world, which is still so in some respects, he applied himself chiefly to examine that which distinguishes it most at present; the works of Raphael, of Titian, and of Michael Angelo. He had not made a particular study of the fine arts; but that expression, which shines in the master-pieces of this kind, infallibly strikes every man of genius. Accustomed to study nature, he knew her again when well imitated, as a like portrait strikes all those who are familiarly acquainted with the original. Those productions of art must indeed be wretched, whose whole beauty is only discernable by artists.

After having travelled over Italy, M. de Montesquieu came to Switzerland. He carefully examined those

vast countries which are watered by the Rhine. There was nothing more for him to see in Germany, FOR FREDERIC DID NOT YET REIGN. He stopt afterwards some time in the United Provinces; an admirable monument what human industry, animated by a love of liberty, can do. At last he went to England, where he staid three years. Worthy of visiting and entertaining the greatest of men, he had nothing to regret but that he had not made this voyage sooner. Newton and Locke were dead. But he had often the honour of paying his respects to their protectress, the celebrated queen of England, who cultivated philosophy upon a throne, and who properly esteemed and valued M. de Montesquieu. He was no less well received by the nation, which, however, was not obliged to follow the example of its superiors on this occasion. He formed at London intimate friendships with men accustomed to think, and to prepare themselves for great actions, by profound studies; with them he instructed himself in the nature of the government, and attained to a thorough knowledge of it. We speak here after the public testimonies which have been given him by the English themselves, so jealous of our advantages, and so little disposed to acknowledge any superiority in us.

As he had examined nothing either with the prejudice of an enthusiast, or the austerity of a cynic, he brought back from his travels, neither a saucy disdain for foreigners, nor a still more misplaced contempt for his own country. It was the result of his observations, that Germany was made to travel in, Italy to sojourn in, England to think in, and France to live in.

After his return to his own country, M. de Montesquieu retired for two years to his estate of la Brede.

He there enjoyed in peace that solitude which our having viewed the tumult and hurry of the world, serves to render more agreeable: he lived with himself, after having so long lived in a different way: and what interests us most, he put the last hand to his work on the *Cause of the Grandeur and Declension of the Romans*, which appeared in 1734.

Empires, like men, must increase, decay, and be extinguished. But this necessary revolution has often hidden causes, which the veil of time conceals from us, and which mystery or their apparent minuteness has even sometimes hid from the eyes of contemporaries.

Nothing in this respect resembles modern history more than ancient history. That of the Romans however deserves, in this respect, to be made an exception of; it presents us with a rational policy, a connected system of aggrandizement, which does not permit us to attribute the fortune of this people to obscure and inferior springs. The causes of the Roman grandeur may then be found in history; and it is the business of the philosopher to discover them. Besides, there are no systems in this study, as in that of physic; these are almost always overthrown, because one new and unforeseen experiment can overturn them in an instant; on the contrary, when we carefully collect the facts which the ancient history of a country transmits to us, if we do not always gather together all the materials which we can desire, we can at least hope one day to have more of them. A careful study of history, a study so important and so difficult, consists in combining in the most perfect manner these defective materials: such would be the merit of an architect, who, from some curious learned remains, should trace in the most

probable manner, the plan of an ancient edifice; supplying, by genius and happy conjectures, what was wanting in these unformed and mutilated ruins.

It is in this point of view that we ought to consider the work of M. de Montesquieu. He finds the causes of the grandeur of the Romans in that love of liberty, of labour, and of their country, which was instilled into them during their infancy; in those intestine divisions, which gave an activity to their genius, and which ceased immediately upon the appearance of an enemy; in that constancy after misfortunes, which never despaired of the republic; in that principle they adhered to of never making peace but after victories; in the honour of a triumph, which was a subject of emulation among the generals; in that protection which they granted to those people who rebelled against their kings; in the excellent policy of permitting the conquered to preserve their religion and customs; and that of never having two enemies upon their hands at once, and of bearing every thing of the one, till they had destroyed the other. He finds the causes of their declension in the aggrandizement of the state itself; in those distant wars, which obliging the citizens to be too long absent, made them insensibly lose their republican spirit; in the privilege of being citizens of Rome granted to so many nations, which made the Roman people at last become a sort of many headed monster; in the corruption introduced by the luxury of Asia; in the proscriptions of Sylla, which debased the genius of the nation, and prepared it for slavery; in that necessity which the Romans found themselves in of having a master, while their liberty was become burthensome to them; in that necessity they were obliged to of

changing their maxims when they changed their government; in that series of monsters who reigned, almost without interruption, from Tiberius to Nerva, and from Commodus to Constantine; in a word, in the translation and division of the empire, which perished first in the west by the power of barbarians, and which, after having languished several ages in the east, under weak or cruel Emperors, insensibly died away, like those rivers which disappear in the sands.

A very small volume was enough for M. de Montesquieu to explain and unfold so interesting and vast a picture. As the author did not insist upon the detail, and only seized on the most fruitful branches of his subject, he has been able to include in a very small space, a vast number of objects distinctly perceived, and rapidly presented, without fatiguing the reader. While he points out a great deal to us, he leaves us still more to reflect upon; and he might have entitled his book, *A Roman History for the use of Statesmen and Philosophers*.

Whatever reputation M. de Montesquieu had acquired by this last work, and by those which had preceded it, he had only cleared the way for a far grander undertaking for that which ought to immortalize his name, and render it respectable to future ages. He had long ago formed the design; and had meditated for twenty years upon the execution of it; or, to speak more properly, his whole life had been a perpetual meditation upon it. He had first made himself in some respect a stranger to his own country, better to understand it at last: he had afterwards travelled over all Europe, and profoundly studied the different people who inhabit it. The famous island, which glories so much in her laws, and which makes so bad a use

of them, had been to him in this long tour, what the isle of Crete had formerly been to Lycurgus,—a school where he had known well how to instruct himself, without approving every thing: in a word, he had, if we may so speak, examined and judged those celebrated nations and men who only exist at present in the annals of the world. It was thus that he attained by degrees to the noblest title which a wise man can deserve—that of legislator of nations.

If he was animated by the importance of his subject, he was at the same time terrified by its extensiveness; he abandoned it, and returned to it again at several intervals. He felt more than once, as he himself owns, his paternal hands fail him. At last, encouraged by his friends, he collected all his strength, and published the *Spirit of Laws*.

Scarce had the *Spirit of Laws* appeared, but it was eagerly sought after on account of the reputation of its author: but though M. de Montesquieu had wrote for the good of the people, he ought not to have had the vulgar for his judge. The depth of his subject was a necessary consequence of its importance. However, the strokes which were scattered up and down the work, and which would have been displaced if they had not arisen naturally from the subject, made too many people believe that it was wrote for them. People sought for an agreeable book, and they only found an useful one; the whole scheme and particular details of which they could not comprehend without some attention. The *Spirit of Laws* was treated with a deal of light wit; even the title of it was made a subject of pleasantry; in a word, one of the finest literary monuments which our nation ever produced, was at first re-

garded by it with much indifference. It was requisite that the true judges should have time to read it: they very soon corrected the errors of the multitude, always ready to change its opinion. That part of the public which teaches, dictated to that which listens to hear how it ought to think and speak; and the suffrages of men of abilities, joined to the echoes which repeated them, formed only one voice over all Europe.

It was then that the open and secret enemies of letters and philosophy (for there are of both kinds) united their darts against this work. Hence that multitude of pamphlets which were aimed against him from all parts, and which we shall not draw out from that oblivion in which they have sunk. If those authors had not taken proper measures to be unknown to posterity, it might be believed that the *Spirit of Laws* was wrote amidst a nation of barbarians.

M. de Montesquieu easily despised the dark criticisms of those weak authors, who, whether out of a jealousy which they had no title to have, or to satisfy the public ill-nature, which loves satire and contempt, outrageously attack what they cannot attain to; and more odious on account of the ill which they want to do, than formidable for that which they actually do, do not succeed even in this kind of writing, the facility of which, as well as its object, rendered equally mean. He placed works of this kind on the same level with those weekly newspapers of Europe, the encomiums of which have no authority, and their darts no effect; which indolent readers run over without giving credit to, and in which sovereigns are insulted without knowing it, or without deigning to revenge it. But he was not equally indifferent about those principles of irreligion which

they accused him of having propagated in the Spirit of Laws. By despising such reproaches, he would have believed that he deserved them; and the importance of the object, made him shut his eyes at the real meanness of his adversaries. Those men, who really want zeal as much as they are eager to make it appear that they have it, afraid of that light which letters diffuse, not to the prejudice of religion, but to their own disadvantage, took different ways of attacking him; some by a stratagem which was as pusillanimous, had wrote to himself; others, after having attacked him under the mask of anonymous writers, had afterwards fallen by the ears among themselves. M. de Montesquieu, though he was very jealous of confounding them with each other, did not think it proper to lose time, which was precious, in combating them one after another; he contented himself with making an example of him who had most signalized himself by his extravagance. It was the author of an anonymous and periodical paper, who imagined that he had a title to succeed Pascal, because he has succeeded to his opinions; a panegyrist

of works which no body reads, and an apologist of miracles which the secular power put an end to, whenever it wanted to do it; who call the little interest which people of letters take in his quarrels, impious and scandalous; and hath by an address worthy of him, alienated from himself that part of the nation whose affections he ought chiefly to have endeavoured to keep. The strokes of this formidable champion were worthy of those views which inspired him; he accused M. de Montesquieu of spinosism and deism (two imputations which are incompatible); of having followed the system of Pope (of which there is not a word in his works); of having quoted Plutarch, who is not a christian author; of not having spoken of original sin and of grace. In a word, he pretended that the Spirit of Laws was a production of the constitution *Unigenitus*; an idea which we may perhaps be suspected of fathering on the critic out of derision. Those who have known M. de Montesquieu, and who understand his work, and that of Clement XI., may judge by this accusation of the rest.

(To be concluded in our next.)

DETACHED ANECDOTES.

"SEE ALL THINGS FOR MY USE."

SUPERSTITION has often arisen from an overweening idea of our own self-importance, as if all the movements of nature, ordinary, and extraordinary, had some reference to our puny concerns. It is related of Henry IV. of France, who though possessing in many respects a strong mind, was not free from a debasing superstition, that a comet which appeared in 1607, gave him much a-

larm, and induced him to take precautions for the health of his children, because the astrologers gave out that it threatened their lives. Henry IV. said to Matthieu, his historian, who relates it, "that the comet had shed its influence on the daughter of the King of England; and that through God's mercy, the astrologers had been mistaken." What folly! The revolutions of the heavenly bodies had no concern with

him, or his children, or with those of James I. or any other monarch or mortal, high or low, either prince or beggar. With what absurdity of self-conceit does man place himself, as in the centre of the universe, and fondly imagine himself of such importance, that all nature is employed in giving warnings to him! Astrology and the doctrines of omens had their origin in an inordinate self-love. Slow-retiring superstition keeps a hold over many minds, and under the vain conceits of dreams, particular providences, warnings, omens, &c. still retains an extensive although diminished empire. K.

ATTACHMENT OF COURTIERS.

The Duke of Sully in his memoirs, thus describes the favour of summer friends, and the uncertainty of prosperity: "those years were full of glory and prosperity for me, but they are past: those friends so affectionate have disappeared with my favour: those allies so respectful have vanished with my fortune."

PROFUSION.

Two Italian gentlemen were walking leisurely up the Hay-market, sometime in the year 1749, lamenting the fate of the famous Cuzzona, an actress who some time before had been in high vogue, but was then, as they heard, in a very pitiable situation. Let us go and visit her, said one of them, she lives but over the way. The other consented; and calling at the door, they were shown up stairs, but found the faded beauty dull and spiritless, unable or unwilling to converse on any subject—"How's this?" cried one of her consolers, "are you ill? or is it but low spirits chains your tongue so?"—"Neither," replied she, "'tis hunger, I suppose. I ate nothing yesterday, and 'tis now past six o'clock, and not one penny have I in the world to buy me food."—"Come with us instantly to a tavern,

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we will treat you with the best roast fowls and port wine that London can produce."—"But I will have neither my dinner nor my place of eating prescribed to me," answered Cuzzona, in a sharper tone, "else I need never have wanted."—"Forgive me," cried the gentleman, "do your own way; but eat, in the name of God, and restore fainting nature." She thanked him then, and calling to her a friendly wretch, who inhabited the same theatre of misery, gave him the guinea with which the visitor had accompanied the last words, "and run with this money," said she, "to such a wine-merchant," naming him; "he is the only one keeps good Tokay by him—'tis a guinea a bottle—mind you,"—to the boy,—"and bid the gentleman you buy it of, to give you a loaf into the bargain—he won't refuse." In half an hour the lad returned with the Tokay; "but where," cried Cuzzona, "is the loaf I spoke for?"—"The merchant would give me no loaf," replied her messenger, "he drove me from the door, and asked me if I took him for a baker."—"Blockhead!" exclaimed she, "why I must have bread to my wine, you know, and I have not a penny to purchase any; go, beg me a loaf directly." The fellow returns once more, with one in his hand, and a halfpenny, telling that the gentleman threw it to him, and laughed at his impudence. She gave her Mercury the money, broke the bread into a bason which stood near, and poured the Tokay over it, and devoured the whole with eagerness. This was indeed a heroine in profusion. Some active persons procured her a benefit after this; she gained about £350, and laid out two hundred of the money instantly in a *shell-cap*, such things being then worn.

Dr. Johnson's *improviso verses*, made on a young heir's coming of age, are highly capable of restrain-

S S S

ing extravagance, and wanton wastefulness—if they are to be restrained.

Long expected one and twenty,
Ling'ring year, at length is flown;
Pride and pleasure, pomp and plenty,
Great are now your own.

Loosen'd from the minor's tether,
Free to mortgage or to sell,
Wild as wind, as light as feather,
Bid the sons of thrift farewell.

Call the Betsys, Kates, and Jennys;
All the names that banish care;
Lavish of your grandsire's guineas,
Shew the spirit of an heir.

All that prey on vice or folly
Joy to see their quarry fly;
There the gamster light and jolly,
There the lender grave and sly.

Wealth, my lad, was made to wander,
Let it wander as it will;
Call the jockey, call the pander,
Bid them come and take their fill.

When the bonny blade careuses,
Pockets full, and spirits high,—
What are acres? What are houses?
Only dirt, or wet or dry!

Should the guardian, friend, or mother,
Tell the woes of wilful waste;
Scorn their counsel, scorn their pother;
You can hang or drown at last.

Pierre's British Synonymy.

RAPIDITY OF FASHIONABLE CONVERSION.

Louis de Courcillon de Dangeau, abbot of Fontaine-Daniel and Clermont, was himself a convert, and as conversion was much in vogue, under the devout Lewis XIV he sometimes employed himself in this work. Of one instance of success, however, he did not boast. An unbeliever, who probably had been so through fashion, and became a convert from the same principle, went directly to the opposite extreme of superstitious credulity. "Alas!" said the abbot, "I have but just proved to this giddy-head the existence of a God, and he is ready to believe in the christening of bells."

A MILD CHECK TO INTOLERANCE.

When Bishop Morley was consulted by a mayor of a country corpora-

tion, what method he should take to root out the fanatics in the year of his mayoralty; the bishop, now grown old, first preached friendliness to him, by ordering him a glass of Canary as oft as he started the question in company; and next admonished him, when alone, to let these people live quietly, in many of whom he was satisfied there was the true fear of God, and who were not likely to be gained by rigour and severity.

School Books.

THE ODYSSEY AND THE ILIAD.

It is a subject of surprise that in our schools and academies, the ILIAD should be used as a standard classic in preference to the ODYSSEY; equally well suited to convey the knowledge of the Greek language, and so much superior in its morality and lessons of life. One is tempted to exclaim, in the translation of Cowper, which, always, gives us the character as well as the sense of the divine original,

.....How can we overlook

Divine Ulysses, whose courageous heart,
With such peculiar cheerfulness endures
Whatever toils, and whom Minerva loves.

We should naturally have expected that preceptors, and professors, who are generally of the clerical profession, would have been solicitous to turn away the eyes, and the hearts of their pupils, from the immoral theology, the ferocious passions, the splendid and dangerous fallacies of the Iliad. From the partialities of its poet, we should have turned them to the perfect model and example which the Odyssey opens to our enraptured view, of perseverance, of patience, of prudence, (the providence of the human being) of modest magnanimity, of the most pleasing urbanity, of the most implicit confidence in divine protection, and in fine of the LOVE OF COUNTRY. We should have been eager to set before them a soul replete with the sweetness of the natal soil, that per-

vading passion "Ratione valentior omni" which accompanied the great and good Ulysses in all his wanderings, and made him reject Calypso, and a proffered immortality for the dear delight of revisiting the barren Ithaca,

Καλλιὸν ἀποδιδύμεται τῷ σοφί.

Ought not the observation to be impressed, as by a signet, on the mind of every preceptor, that whoever has the regulation of early life, is, in a great degree, the arbiter of its happiness or misery, and that the influence of early associations on the mind might be employed in the most effectual manner *to aid our moral principles*? Thus it should be the grand object "to teach learning by instruction, and virtue by example."

For this end, I know not of any means more effectual than to set before the delighted eyes of youth, such a man as ULYSSES, humanly perfect; to attach their early associations to the contemplation and love of the poetic form and fiction; and then to animate and realize it by the promethean torch of a virtuous enthusiasm, a flame which, at the perilous period of puberty, either lifts the possessor to heaven, or, perverted and inverted, descends to the centre. Is it, at a critical time, like this, that fuel should be cast upon our brutal passions, and when the ferocious Achilles, "impiger, iracundus, inexorabilis, acer" is suffered perhaps by a christian divine, (professing good will towards men, and inspired with a wish for peace upon earth,) is this the demoniac mortal allowed to fascinate the fancies, and kindle the feelings of boys verging upon manhood?

The ill tendency of such ingenious but immoral fiction was known and felt even in ancient times, when war was more the occupation of life, when it was made merely for the sake of war, and the philosopher

was scarcely heard who said "*Bel-lum ob solam pacem suscipiendum.*" Even then, the "*corruptela poetarum*" was acknowledged, and lamented. Did an idolizing imitation of Achilles improve the character or the conduct of Alexander? Did not the siege of Troy, instigate him to the destruction of Tyre? And was it not, with reason, that Plato expelled such Poems from his moral republic? I have sometimes thought that a noble subject of a grand and moral epic, might be found in THE LABOURS OF HERCULES, conveying the wisest instruction through the means of lively fiction, and with a momentous moral running through the whole, like a vein of gold. *Pro omnibus gentibus conservandis, labores subiit.*

If on the one hand every thing is to be feared from the deception of an example, whose very vices, by the pandarism of poetry, are rendered seducing and attractive, nothing on the other hand, forms a more powerful incitement to imitation, nothing so rapidly pushes forward the perfectibility of our nature, not only in the arts that adorn life, but in life itself, as placing before us an image of perfection, an "*eximius unus*" to whom, or to which, we may approximate, where we cannot hope to equal. Thus in eloquence, the image of the perfect orator—"verus"—"perfectus"—"solus"—moved incessantly, before the eyes of Demosthenes and Cicero, and illumined their imaginations, and inspired them with the mighty hope of filling the vast to come.

Thus also there is a "*vis divina*" of poetry, a *vis æther*, an ideal standard of perfection, which, transported Milton into heaven, and induced Virgil in a moment of despondence, to throw his *Æneid* into the flames.

In painting and sculpture too, the "*beau idéal*," or in coarser language "the faultless monster which

the world ne'er saw," heightens the sublimity of the conception, and throws an air of divinity over the statue of Venus or Apollo. And lastly, in the art of living well, certainly the best of all arts, philosophers, or wise men of all ages, have deemed it most useful for the practical imitation of mankind, to set before them an example in which virtue may be said to be embodied, and where we may worship the image of the divinity, without the danger of idolatry. Such we may suppose was the "Daimon" consulted by Socrates, and under this point of view, we view the life and adventures of the sage Ulysses, a poem, which, (if the expression may be excused by the enthusiasm of the reader) I should not scruple to denominate the PAGAN SCRIPTURES.

I have often admired the beautiful ideal love of Sophia in Rousseau's *Emilius*. She had fallen in love,

before she saw *Emilius*, with the idol of her imagination, and indeed the object was well worthy of the richest and purest fancy. It was with *TELEMACHUS* she fell in love, the son of Ulysses, drawn by the pencil of Fenelon, in a manner, and with that divine grace, which only the best of hearts could have imparted to the creation of the most elegant taste. The "beau ideal" of the other sex, is perhaps accomplished in *CLARISSA HARLOWE*.

The foregoing slight remarks are made with a view of recommending the *Odyssey* in preference to the *Iliad* for the use of schools, and I venture to add that there is ample room for an "index expurgatorius" in the books which are wantonly and unadvisedly placed before the youth of these countries, in their public institutions, under the title of classic literature. A. P.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

TO METIS WITH SOME SCOTCH PEBBLES.

(Written by the late Dr. Haliday.)

TO her whom more than life Alexis loves
The gentle Metis, in whose happy breast,
With active vigour every virtue lives,
Who blessing others, is herself most blest.

Whose thoughts are wisdom all refin'd by
taste,

Whose speech is eloquence, unhurt by art,
Whose actions goodness, by the manner
grac'd,

Thoughts, words, and actions flowing
from the heart.

What present shall the fond Alexis give,
Who to his Metis ev'ry blessing owes;
Is life a blessing? Metis bids him live,
Is happiness? She happiness bestows.

No matter what—no present would she
prize,
Nor deign accept, did not the giver
please;

From me the meanest pebble in her eyes,
Will emulate the costly diamond's blaze.

The naked Indian who in caverns dwells,
And decks the savage whom his soul adores;

With Pebbles, moss, or variegated shells,
Gather'd on steep rough rocks and dreary shores.

Feels in his breast the mighty passion beat,
* * * * *

While the smooth Lord with glossing
speeches fair;

Feigning what ne'er he felt.....Love's
sacred flame;

With golden ornaments and jewels rare,
To joyless arms soon bribes the dower'd
dame.

But lo! he quits the useless grown disguise,
Deserts her table, and neglects her bed.

* Some lines of the original manuscript
are missing.

Unmov'd he views her lovely streaming
eyes,
Unmov'd alas, he soon will view her
dead.

No more, no more...be dumb my prattling
muse,
Transgress no longer on her precious
tune,
Lest offer'd trifles lab'ring to excuse,
You make them worse with load of evil
rhyme.

Yet tell her she received from nature's
hands,
A form all elegance, and every gem
In worth's bright diadem which foremost
stands,
Could fortune add one ornament to them?
Tell her these flinty pebbles of the north,
Devoutly plac'd upon her saintly shrine;
Will matchless lustre thence derive and
worth
Beyond the products of the Indian mine.
A. H. H.

AN ADDRESS,

*Spoken at the Belfast Theatre, on the night of
the 19th inst. when a Play was performed
for the Benefit of the Pupils of the Irish
HARP SOCIETY.*

BY A MEMBER OF THE SOCIETY.

ERE laws were fram'd, or arts receiv'd
their birth,
Or culture's hand had tam'd the stubborn
earth,
Man helpless liv'd, to solitude confin'd,
One step exalted o'er the bestial kind;
And still among the woods and wilds had
roam'd,
To lonely misery perpetual doom'd,
Had not, to ease his woes, propitious heav'n
One gift of passing worth in mercy given;
Call'd forth the Angel form that guides the
spheres
Thro' all the periods of revolving years,
With skill melodious—called, and bade her
go,
To harmonize a jarring world below.
She came—she struck the lyre—creation
smil'd—
The fur-clad savage quit the desert wild;
Nation with nation, by the spell divine;
In bonds of social amity combine:
And cities rise, and navies ride the main,
And teeming plenty crowns the laughing
plain.
But, as our circling planet she surveys,
To mark th' effect of her transforming lays,

Her fondest gaze, her most enraptured
smile,
Was lavish'd on Ierne's sea-green isle.
Here swelled her sweetest notes; the rap-
tured bard
From fire to son transmits the notes he
heard.
Hence when her thunderbolts destruction
hurled
From northern mountains thro' the western
world.
Learning and taste fled from the wild a-
larms,
And found a refuge in Ierne's arms.
Hence also, when the Dane with hostile
boast
Hung, like the cloud of death, around her
coast,
The mighty BRYAN fired his warlike band,
To bleed or conquer for their native land.
He struck the Harp—a thousand faulchions
rose
And hurl'd destruction on a thousand foes.
"Ierne's fleet, even then the nation's pride,
"With keels impetuous cut the foaming
tide;
"Swept from the ocean's face th' impending
host,
"And from invasion purged the sacred
coast.
"The wounded warrior, faint with toils of
war,
"Hence draws a palm to heal his bleeding
scar;
"For as the fair-haired daughters of the
isle
"With grateful songs his anguish'd soul
beguile;
"He drinks with greedy ear the sweet-
sung strain,
"And peace and rest succeed to throes of
pain.
But now, our heav'n born Harp, with
other fires
Than those of war and death, her sons in-
spires:
"Now, while destruction's banner wide un-
furl'd,
"Waves like a meteor o'er a prostrate
world;
"While nation after nation tottering fall,
"Till all are sunk—one fate involving all;
"Secure we stand, and, when the tale we
hear,
"If beats the heart, 'tis pity's throb, not
fear."
Oh, sacred Charity! to thee 'tis given,
To sanctify the gift bestow'd by Heaven;
To bid the strains of harmony arise,
Like grateful incense to their native skies;

Upon the lonely sightless sons of woe
A new formed source of pleasure to be-
stow.

Behold thy work!—

[The scene opening, discovers the Harpers.]

See here a helpless band,
The tokens of thy gracious influence, stand!
What speaks this sight?—It tells to all a-
round,

That Charity and music chose this ground,
This favour'd spot, the seat of wealth and
arts,

To fix their empire in a people's hearts.
What! tho' no mighty fabric charms the
eye,

No far famed column towers to meet the
sky—

What! tho' all sweeping Luxury's fell
away

Transform not seasons, turn not night to
day—

Yet here the faithful chronicler can boast
A fame superior to her pomp or cost;
Hearts, where with strange coincidence
conspires

Scotia's calm prudence with Ierne's fires:
A town, where patient industry presides;
Where virtue to the fane of honour guides;
Where pity opens the willing hand of wealth,
Dispensing balm to care, to sickness health;
Where poverty is banished from the door,
And vagrant idleness dares prowl no more.

Thy merit shall have praise—where'er
this band,

The children of thy bounty, thro' the
land

Repeat the tones that once our fathers loved,
The raptured audience, with strange pas-
sion moved,

Will ask, what blessed hand restored those
strains,

So nearly lost, to vibrate thro' our plains?
Then will the swell of gratitude arise

In joyous tides to fill their sightless eyes,
While memory, to the voice of nature true,
Exclaim with rapturous sympathy—to you!

The lines marked thus (") were omitted
at the representation, through fear of ren-
dering the recitation tedious.

UAL MO CHROIDHE.

THOU dear seducer of my heart,
Fond cause of every struggling sigh;
No more can I conceal love's smart,
No more restrain the ardent eye.
What tho' this tongue did never more
To tell thee all its master's pain,

My eyes, my looks, have spoke my love,
Ah! Norah, shall they speak in vain.

My fond imagination warm,
Presents thee at the noontide beam,
And sleep gives back thy angel form,
To clasp thee in the midnight dream.
My Norah, tho' no splendid sire,
I boast, a venal heart to move;
Yet charmer, I am far from poor,
For I am more than rich in love.

Pulse of my beating heart, shall all
My hopes of thee, and peace be fled,
Unheeded wilt thou bear me fall,
Unpitied wilt thou see me dead!
I'll make a cradle of this breast,
Thy image all its child shall be;
My throbbing heart will rock to rest,
The cares that waste thy life and me.

MAIDIN BATTANAC SLEARI DUFF GINO RUIDH.

SO sweet is the lip of the maid that I love,
Let us meet at the bower beneath the
green tree,

Let the ray of the moon be thy guide thro'
the grove,

And thine eye be the beam that will
light me to thee.

O steal to the bower, where willows en-
twine

With woodbine and roses to shade it a
bove;

I swear there is nought in a goblet of wine,
So sweet as the lip of the maid that I
love.

Haste, haste, thou bright moon to rise over
the hill,

And spread thy soft hues on the valley
beneath;

Peace tremulous aspen, be quiet, be still,

I hear her light step, and I fear me to
breathe.

O come then my charmer and banish my fear,
Bring joy to my heart and each doubt
will remove;

I swear there is nought upon earth that's so
dear,

So sweet as the lip of the maid that I
love.

THE MAID OF THE MOOR,

OR

THE WATER FIENDS;

BY GEORGE COLMAN.

ON a wild Moor, all brown and black
Where broods the heath-frequenting
grouse,

There stood a tenement antique,
Lord Hopper-Gollops country-house.

Here silence reign'd, with lips of glue,
And undisturb'd maintains her law,
Save when the owl cry'd, whoo, whoo,
who, whoo,
Or the hoarse crow crouk'd, caw, caw, caw.

Neglected mansion, for 'tis said,
When'er the snow comes feathering
down,
Four barbed steeds, from the bulls head,
Carry'd thy master up to town ;

Weak Hopper Gollop ! Lords may moan,
Who stake in London their estate,
On two small rattling bits of bone,
On little figure or on great.

Swift whirl the wheels...he's gone...a Rose
Remains behind whose virgin look,
Unseen, must blush in wintry snows,
Sweet beauteous blossom... 'twas the
Cook.

A bolder far, than my weak note,
Maid of the Moor, thy charms demand,
Fels might be proud to lose their coat,
If skion'd by Molly Dumppling's hand.

Long had the fair-one sat alone,
Had none remain'd but only she,
She by herself had been, if one
Had not been left for company.

'Twas a tall youth, whose cheeks clear
hue,
Wasting'd with health, and manly toil,
Cabbage he sow'd, and when it grew,
He always cut it off to boil.

Of would he say...Delve, Delve the bole,
And prune the tree, and trim the root,
And stick the wig upon the pole
To scare the sparrows from the fruit.

A small mute favourite by day,
Follow'd his steps, where'er he wheels,
His barrow round the garden gay,
A bob-tail cur is at his heels.

Ah man ! the brute creation see
Thy constancy oft need to spur,
While lessons of fidelity
Are found in every bob-tail cur.

Hard toil'd the youth, so fresh and strong,
While bob-tail in his face would look,
And mark'd his master troll the song,
Sweet Molly Dumppling...O thou cook !

For thus he sung, while Cupid smil'd,
Pleas'd that the gardener owned his dart,

Which prun'd his passions, running wild,
And grafted true love in his heart.

Maid of the Moor, his love return,
True love ne'er tints the cheek with
shame ;

When gard'ners hearts like hot-beds burn,
A cook may surely fan the flame.

Ah ! not averse from love was she ;
Tho' pure as heaven's snowy flake,
Both lov'd, and though a gard'ner he,
He knew not what it was to rake.

Cold blows the blast...the night's obscure,
The mansion's crazy windows crack,
The sun had sunk, and all the throb,
Like ev'ry other moor was black.

Alone, pale, trembling, near the fire,
The lovely Molly Dumppling sat,
Much did she fear, and much admire,
What Thomas Gardner would be at.

List'ning, her hand supports her chin,
But ah no foot is heard to stir ;
He comes not from the garden in,
Nor he, nor little bob-tail cur.

They cannot come sweet maid to thee,
Flesh both of cur, and man is grass ;
And what's impossible, can't be,
And never, never comes to pass.

She passes thro' the hall antique,
To call her Thomas from his toil ;
Open the huge door : the hinges creak,
Because the hinges wanted oil.

Thrice, on the threshold of the hall,
She...Thomas...cry'd, with many a sob,
And thrice on bob-tail did she call,
Exclaiming sweetly...Bob...bob...bob...

Vain maid...a gard'ner's corpse 'tis said,
In answers can but ill succeed,
And dogs that hear, when they are dead,
Are very cunning dogs indeed.

Back thro' the hall she bent her way,
And all was solitude around ;
The candle shed a feeble ray,
Tho' a large mould of four to the pound.

Full closely to the fire she drew,
Adown her cheek a salt tear stole,
When low a coffin out there flew,
And in her apron burnt a hole.

Spiders their busy death-watch tick'd
A certain sign that fate will frown ;
The clumsy kitchen clock too click'd,
A certain sign, it was not down.

More strong and strong her terrors rose,
Her shadow did the maid appal,
She trembled at her lovely nose,
It look'd so long against the wall.

Up to her chamber, damp and cold,
She climb'd Lord Hopper-Gollops stair,
Three stories high, long, dull, and old,
As great Lords stories often are.

All nature now appeared to pause,
And o'er the one half world seem'd dead,
No curtain'd sleep had she, because,
She had no curtains to her bed.

Listening she lay...with iron din,
The clock struck twelve...the door flew
wide,

When Thomas grimly glided in;
With little bob-tail by his side.

Tall, like the poplar, was his size,
Green, green his waistcoat was as leeks,
Red, red as beet root, were his eyes,
And pale as turnips were his cheeks.

Soon as the spectre she esp'd,
The fear-struck damsel, faintly, said,
What would my Thomas / he reply'd,
O Molly Dumpling, I am dead.

All in the flower of youth, I fell,
Cut off with healthful blossom crown'd,
I was not ill, but in a well,
I tumbled backward...and was drown'd.

Four fathom deep thy love doth lie,
His faithful dog his fate did share;
We're-Fiends...this is not he and I,
We are not here, for we are there.

Yes...two foul water-fiends are we
Maid of the moor, attend us now,
Thy hour's at hand...we come for thee...
The little fiend cur said...bow...wow!

To wind her in her cold, cold grave,
A Holland sheet a maiden likes,
A sheet of Water thou shalt have,
Such sheets there are in Holland dykes.

The Fiends approach...the maid did shrink,
Swift thro' the night's foul air they spin,
They took her to the green well's brink,
And with a souse they plunged her in.

So true the fair...so true the youth,
Maid to this day their story tell,
And hence the proverb rose, that truth
Lies in the bottom of a well.

THE AFFECTIONATE HEART.

BY JOSEPH COLLIS.

LET the great man, his treasures possess-
ing;

Pomp and splendour for ever attend;
I prize nought but shadowy blessing;
I ask...the affectionate friend.

Tho' foibles may sometimes o'ertake him,
His footsteps from wisdom depart;
Yet, my spirit shall never forsake him,
If he own the affectionate heart.

Affection! thou soother of care,
Without thee unfriended we rove;
Thou canst make e'en the desert look fair,
And thy voice is the voice of the dove.

'Mid the anguish that preys on the breast,
And the storms of mortality's state;
What shall lull the afflicted to rest,
But the joys that on sympathy wait?

What is fame, bidding envy defiance,
The idol and bane of mankind;
What is wit, what is learning, or science,
To the heart that is steadfast and kind?

E'en genius may weary the night,
By too fierce and too constant a blaze;
But affection, mild planet of night!
Grows lov'lier the longer we gaze.

It shall thrive when the flattering forms,
That encircle creation, decay;
It shall live 'mid the wide-wasting storms,
That beat all undistinguish'd away.

When time, at the end of his race,
Shall expire with expiring mankind;
It shall stand on its permanent base;
It shall last till the wreck of the mind.

A POET AND A PATRON.

TO CARDINAL RICHELIEU, FROM THE MOUTH
OF MONS. MAYNARD.

STICK of a life, possess'd in vain,
I soon shall wait upon the ghost
Of our late Monarch, in whose reign,
None who had merit mis'd a post.

Then will I charm him with your name,
And all your glorious wonders done,
The pow'r of France...the Spaniards' shame,
The rising honours of his son:

Grateful the royal shade will smile,
And dwell, delighted, on your name,
Sweetly appear'd, his griefs beguile,
And drown old losses in new fame.

But when he asks me, in what part,
I did your wish'd commands obey,
And how I shar'd your favour most,
...What would you please to have me say?

Richieu reading the last line answered
rien—nothing.

THE ROBIN RED-BREAST AND THE CAT.

ONE morn, when snows bestrew'd the
ground,
And frst each pool in fetters bound,
A Robin pinch'd, thro' hungers power,
Made free t'approach a farmer's door,
Nor bolts, nor bars his entrance stop'd;
The door was open...in he hop'd...
He star'd around with vast surprise,
The scene was new to Robin's eyes.
He duck'd his head as who should say,
God bless you, folks! this frosty day;
Now bolder grown, he hopp'd around,
And pick'd the crumbs from off the ground,
His little crop soon fill'd with meat
Kind Jenny crumbled as he eat.

"Blest chance to lead me (Robin said)
To where I'm warm'd, to where I'm fed,
May ne'er mischance this house molest,
And may that kind be doubly blest,
May pains, and sickness cease t'intrude,"

Then chirp'd a song of gratitude.

Grimalkin heard the tempting air,
And sly crept from beneath a chair;
He lick'd his whiskers, fixed his eyes,
And sprung upon his flutt'ring prize.

Ah me...ah me, what woes betide,
Spare...spare my life, poor Robin cry'd,
Shew mercy as thou'dst mercy find,
I ne'er harm'd Cat or Kitten kind.
Let *man's example* be thy guide.

Fool, *so it is*...the cat reply'd,
Look round, and thou shalt view each day,
Man making man his eager prey.
The helpless, harmless, rest assur'd,
Ne'er fail, like thee, to be devour'd.

Thus spoke the Cat, with visage grim,
Then tore the trembler limb from limb.

EWAN CLARK.

UNION OF E. AND I.

THUS to the orient fun'ral pyre,
Perfum'd, and deck'd in gay attire,
The victim fair is urg'd along,
Amidst the plaudits of the throng,
By custom doom'd, she yields her charms,
To her dead husband's putrid arms,
Aspiring flames involve the pair,
And Ganges flashes with the glare,
Shrill cymbals clang...loud shouts arise,
And she, in seeming triumph, dies.

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CLASS OF HISTORY AND ANCIENT
LITERATURE OF THE FRENCH IN-
STITUTE, DELIVERED AT THE PUB-
LIC MEETING, ON THE 5TH OF JU-
LY, 1810, BY MONS. GINGUENE.

WE have to commence our report
with an extensive and elaborate
work by Mons. Larcher, the father
of the class, and one of the oldest
cultivators of Grecian literature in Eu-
rope, on the astronomical observations
said to be sent from Babylon to Aris-
totle, by Callisthenes. Mons. L. a-
vows, that astronomical observations
are of great antiquity; and that there
are some, which incontestably date

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from the era of Nabonassar, or 747
before Christ: but how far back must
we place the first? The Babylo-
nians, according to Cicero, pretend-
ed they possessed some 470000 years
old: the Chaldeans, according to
Diodorus Siculus, had some 473000
years before the expedition of Alex-
ander; and Jamblichus carries back
these of the Babylonians to 720000
years. But Cicero calls the Babylo-
nians vain, ignorant, and liars; Dio-
dorus gives no credit to the Chaldeans,
whom he quotes; and in Jamblichus
himself we have little faith. Simplic-
ius says, that Callisthenes, a pupil
of Aristotle, who accompanied Alex-
ander

ander in his expedition against the Persians, sent to Greece, at his master's request, some astronomical observations, which were said to be preserved at Babylon imprinted on bricks. Porphyry, who quotes Simplicius, dates these observations from the year 1903 before the death of Alexander, or 2227 before our era, 101 after the flood, and 120 before the foundation of the kingdom of Assyria, according to Ctesias. But all these assertions are contrary to probability, and Mons. L. brings forward very weighty arguments to prove—1st. That the fact of Calisthenes having sent any astronomical observations to Aristotle is very questionable; but if he did, they could not be older than the era of Nabonassar.—2dly. That the Greek astronomers prior to Ptolemy were so far from knowing any observations prior to that era, that they were even unacquainted with that era itself.—3dly. That Ptolemy is the first writer who mentions this era, and that he knew none older. In a digression, Mons. L. defends his opinion respecting the era of Nabonassar; and he finds some opportunities of correcting Cassini, Lalande, and Pingrè.

Another grand work relative to ancient literature, is an Inquiry into the Topography of the Plain of Argos, by Mons. Barbié du Bocage. In this the author has entered into an elaborate examination of what has been said by ancient writers, and compared it with the accounts of modern travellers, which has enabled him to correct some mistakes of Danville and others.

Mons. Gail has endeavoured to correct some erroneous notions respecting Alcibiades, Nicias, Pericles, and Socrates. Mons. G. has particularly examined the Banquet of Xenophon, which, he says, has been misunderstood both by ancients and moderns.

According to him it is ironical, and in fact a comedy, in which there are many passages not unworthy of Molière, containing a delicate satire on the sophists, and even on Plato himself.

In another paper, Mons. G. gives a description of the Piræus, as it was according to Thucydides under the dominion of the 400; and then endeavours to shew, that the stoa of these 400 was different from the long stoa, of which Pausanias, Demosthenes and others speak.

In some observations on the expedition of the Athenians against Sicily, and on the naval engagement between the Athenians and Lacedæmonians in the Hellespont, Mons. G. discusses certain points in ancient geography. Danville appears to have assigned a wrong position to Idaeus; and cape Cynossema, where was the tomb of Hecuba, must have been between it and Arrhiana, the name of a town, not of a nation.

The last paper, by Mons. G. offers conjectures on the chariot-race, in which Sophocles supposes Orestes to have been killed. This subject had been treated by Mons. Choiseul-Gouffier, who maintains that only five chariots started at once; and he quotes the text of Sophocles in support of this opinion. Sophocles however names ten competitors, and Mons. Gail endeavours to prove from the same text, that they all started at once. Mons. G. also gives a new translation of the epithet *Eupaus*, applied to one of the horses. It had been commonly understood as distinguishing a horse drawing by traces only from one in shafts; but Mons. G. considers it as intended merely to imply the looseness of the traces of the near horse in turning the goal, while those of the off-horse were on the stretch.

Mons. Dupont de Nemours has

given a new explanation of an ancient fable in an interesting drama. In the first act, the scene is in the bark in which Deucalion saved Pyrrha from the flood. It concludes with their landing on the mountains of Thesaly. In the second, Pyrrha, notwithstanding her gratitude and love for Deucalion, refuses to marry him, till they have prepared land sufficient to insure subsistence to their off-spring. This land, like all the other primitive valleys, is covered with pebbles rolled over them by the waves; and thus, by casting the stones behind them, they repopled the world.

Mons. Levesque has treated on the manners and customs of the Athenians in a long paper, of which we shall give an abstract in a future number.

Among the names that the ancient Greeks have handed down to the execration of posterity, Phalaris, the tyrant of Agrigentum, and Apollodorus, the tyrant of Cassandrea, in Macedonia, are frequently coupled together, by those who would adduce examples of incredible barbarity. But the time when the former lived is uncertain; and that of the latter, though much less ancient, is little better known. As Polyenus relates, that this tyrant usurped the authority after Eurydice had restored the Cassandrians to their liberty; the first question that arises is, Who was this Eurydice? Mons. Clavier enters into a learned disquisition to show, that she was the wife of Ptolemy, son of Lagos; and that the usurpation of Apollodorus must have taken place soon after the year 280, B.C.

Mons. Mongez has continued his inquiries concerning the dress of the ancients.

In an account of the antiquities of Lyons, it is said, there is a cistern a hundred feet long, and fifteen feet high, which is still red with the tartar of the wine that was kept in it. On

being analysed by Mons. Darcet however, it appeared, that no tartar was present; and that the red colour was owing to a mixture of broken pottery in the mortar. In making this mortar, a considerable portion of oily matter had been used.

Mons. Petit-Radel has pursued his investigation of the ancient history of Spain, in four papers, in which he has traced the migrations of the Iberians, and the characters that distinguish the Celtic from the Iberian cities.

An inquiry concerning the armorial bearings proper for the city of Paris, has led the same gentleman to derive both the name of Parisii, and the symbol of the ship, which has occupied the principal place in its arms since the thirteenth century, from Isis, whose worship had found its way into some of the northern countries before the Roman arms. This he would have revived with a motto from Lucan, '*Tuam recipimus Isim.*'

Homer's shield of Achilles has furnished M. Quatremere de Quincy with a subject of discussion, which he furnishes with a new attempt to represent the poet's ideas in an engraving.

In another paper he has examined the use the ancients made of gold in their works of art. He observes, that we must not estimate either the value or abundance of gold in ancient times by the present state of things. Gold was naturally the first metal that presented itself to mankind, and the easiest wrought. Hence solid statues of it at a time, when the art of the founder was in its infancy. But those subsequently formed with a core of another metal were still called solid; and others were made of hammered gold; gold laid in plates on a model, or of some other metal simply gilt.

Mons. Sylvestre de Sacy, in his memoirs on various antiquities of Per-

ia, published in 1792, from the inscriptions on two monuments near Kirmanschah, on the mountain Beasutoon, supposed the figures to represent Sapor II. and his son Bahram. Having since a most perfect and accurate copy of the inscriptions, taken by the Venetian traveller Bembo in 1674, he finds, they are Sapor II, and his son and immediate successor Sapor III. A Greek inscription on another part of the mountain, copied by the same traveller, mentions one Gotarzes, whom Mons. de S. conjectures to be the king of Parthia spoken of by Tacitus. In the same paper he endeavours to explain the subjects and inscriptions of various engraved gems of the Sassanides.

Mons. Lanjuinais, who has been engaged several years in the study of the languages, literature, religion, and philosophy of India, has formed the plan of a series of papers on these subjects, part of the first of which he has read to the class. He means to confine himself to India, within the Ganges and the island of Ceylon.

In an essay on the periods of the civilization of nations, Mons. Toulangeon has proposed to lay down principles, from which the remotest antiquity of any nation may be reduced. Mons. T. first sets out with two axioms. 1st, all societies, that are still in the savage state, that is, without property in land, and without native distinctions, are newly formed, and in the first stage of civilization. 2d, Those that are in the state of barbarism are the oldest, since they have passed through an improved state of civilization to that degeneracy which has rendered them barbarous. Proceeding to the application, he takes the Belgæ for an example. These in the time of Cæsar were savages, living on fish and pulse; and consequently in the first stage of civilization. For near two centuries they have been one of the most civilized nations in Eu-

rope. Thus sixteen centuries have been sufficient to enable this people to pass from the lowest to the highest stage of civilization; a period which we may assume, therefore, to be sufficient for this purpose. If this period be applied to the Egyptians, Greeks, Hebrews, Latins, it answers equally well; and if it be necessary to allow the Chinese three or four centuries more, we may ascribe it to the natural slowness of these people. The result is nearly the same, if we apply the calculation to the Russians, English, Poles, Italians, and various nations of Germany. The state of the land too is another indication of that of its inhabitants; and a soil become barren and desert denotes a land where the abode of man is at an end. Such is the interior of Africa; such the deserts that surround the once magnificent Palmyra; and such would be the site of Paris, were it to remain uninhabited for half a century.

Mons. Levesque has communicated to the class part of an extensive work on a country, that had long been a prey to an incurable anarchy, and in our own days has had its very name blotted out by powers styling themselves its friends. To maintain that anarchy was the object of men who resided in its capital under the sacred title of ambassadors, and the French were not the least industrious in promoting it. Their refinement in this crooked policy went so far, that Mons. de Choiseul, who was not destitute of greatness of mind, in his instructions to Mons. de Paulmy, distinguished for his probity and intellect, enjoins him, while he fomented anarchy among the Poles, to prevent a confederation, or decided civil war, lest the evil attendant on this, should open their eyes, and ultimately produce a general union, by which the government would be consolidated.

Whatever difference there may be in the constitutions of countries, their

misfortunes will be nearly similar, when anarchy, the enemy of all constitutions, prevails. The miseries of France were never so great as toward the close of the reign of Charles VI. Two of his sons, whom he had named regents in succession after insanity had disqualified him for holding the reins of government, were taken off: and a barbarous mother, the execrable Izabella of Bavaria, brought fresh misfortunes on her husband and her son, who at length succeeded to the throne as Charles VII. by procuring a revocation of the powers delegated to this son, and causing herself to be declared regent in his stead. Associating herself with the Duke of Burgundy, the assassin of the Duke of Orleans whom she had loved, they made themselves masters of the King's person; dissolved the parliament, and composed another of their own creatures; left the capital at the mercy of the Burgundian soldiery; and placed the whole kingdom in a state of anarchy, while its enemies the English were in the midst of it with an invading army. Some of the obscurities of this part of French history Mons. Boissy d'Anglas has endeavoured to clear up, correcting the mistakes of Voltaire, du Haillan, Mézeray, the Count de Boulainvilliers, and others.

Mons. Gregoire, long known to the world for his exertions in behalf of the Negroes and of the Jews, has endeavoured to investigate the origin of certain prejudices existing in different parts of France, against particular descriptions of people. These prejudices have declined greatly since the middle of the last century, though they are not quite obliterated in the remoter districts, as those against the *Cagots* in the vicinity of the Pyrenees. The ancestors of these persons are supposed to have been set apart and shunned as *lèpers*;

but, if so, the disorder appears to have worn itself out.

The same gentleman has given an account of an ancient bell, of an extraordinary shape, from the convent of Bobbio, in Piedmont. It is about three feet in diameter, and spherical: one hemisphere being complete; the other formed of ten branches, each tapering to a point. Its sound is much louder than that of a common bell of the same weight. Nothing is said of its thickness. A small portion of the ear was analysed by Mons. Vauquelin, and found to consist of copper 76 parts, tin 20, lead 4. Before it had been analysed, Messrs. Molard and Montgolfier cast four other bells of the same shape, but of different compositions. That which came nearest to it in sound, consisted of equal parts of copper, brass, and tin. The result of their trials was sufficient to lead to expectations of considerable improvement in bells.

The prize for the question on the civil and political state of the nations of Italy under the Goths, was awarded to Prof. G. Sartorius, of Goettingen. As the class regretted it had not a second prize to bestow, the minister sent it 1000 francs—(£41 13s. 4d.), which were conferred on Mons. J. NauDET, Prof. at the Napoleon Lyceum. The prize for the critical examination of the historians of Alexis Comnenus was divided between Prof. F. Wilken, of Heidelberg, and Mons. le Prévost d'Éray, inspector general of the imperial university.

The following is the prize question for 1812. *What was the state of French poetry in the 12th and 13th centuries? and what kinds of poetry were most cultivated?* The competitors are particularly desired to examine the works of the French poets properly so called, or *trouvères* who are much less known than the trou-

badours. The papers to be sent before the 1st of April.

REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
CLASS OF FINE ARTS OF THE
FRENCH INSTITUTE FROM THE FIRST
OF OCTOBER 1809, TO THE FIRST OF
OCTOBER 1810, BY MONS. JOACHIM
LEBRETON, PERP. SEC. &c.

THE class, in concert with that of the physical and mathematical sciences, has carefully examined a new piano forte, invented by Messrs. Erard. The necessity of giving a greater power to the tones of this instrument has induced the makers to recur to the triangular form of the harpsichord, and the brothers Erard have lately added considerable improvements, which have produced greater strength in the mechanism, more facility of execution, and great advantages in the harmony. The alteration is in the parts between the keys and the strings. The lever of the key is divided into two, one of which acts upon the other. The second lever raises the jack by means of a kind of continued lever, formed of two inverted stirrups very near together, which succeed each other alternately, so that before the first ceases to exert a uniform action, by its falling down, the second acts. This instrument comprises six octaves, and all its tones are very fine and sonorous, from the highest to the lowest.

Mons. Ponce read an essay on the perfection of the painting of the ancients compared with that of their sculpture. In this he endeavours to show, that the ancient painters were far inferior to the moderns.

The correspondence on the remains of Cyclopean structures, according to the system of Mons. Petit-Radel, has been extensive. Mons. Dodwell, a learned English architect, and Mons. Middleton, an Ame-

rican amateur of antiquities, have communicated some very beautiful drawings of the ruins of Norba, on an eminence overlooking the Pontine marshes. They are still in the state to which they were reduced by the despair of the inhabitants, when they slew each other to avoid falling into the hands of Sylla, by whom they were besieged.

Drawings of the walls of Aletrium, Signia, and Ferentinum also were sent by the same gentlemen, and Messrs. Von Rennenkampff of Livonia. They were all originally Cyclopean structures, formed of blocks of marble from the Apennines. On the walls of Aletrium, phallic subjects are sculptured in relief, so that they must have been coeval with the walls. They were probably connected with the worship of Hermes, who was adored under the same symbol at Elis; whence were derived the Pelasgic colonies, who occupied this part of Italy in the remotest times. The rude state of the art in Greece, in its earliest periods, is observable in the two mutilated basso relievoes, probably intended to represent either Mars or Hermes. The walls of Signia and Ferentinum are composed in the upper part of square stones; and those of the former are of volcanic tufa, perfectly resembling that of which the works of the kings at Rome are constructed. Apparently therefore they were restored by Titus, the son of Tarquin, who is mentioned by Roman authors as the founder of the city.

Mons. Dodwell has also sent drawings of various Cyclopean structures, which he discovered in that part of the country of the Sabines nearest Tivoli.

Mons. Simelli, an architect residing at Rome, and by birth a Sabine, has sent an account of a tower he made in his native country, with

plans and elevations of nine ruins of Cyclopean structures. They appear to be in the place which Dionysius of Halicarnassus assigns to the ruins of Tiora, and a sacred enclosure, in which the aborigines consulted oracles similar to those of Dodona. Eastward from Amiternum are two walls of similar structure, built on steep rocks, running along the mountains, separated only by a torrent. They appear to have been the boundaries of the Sabines and Vestins, which is confirmed by a Latin inscription on one of them.

Baron Degerando has sent a drawing of part of the walls of Spoleto, in Umbria, consisting of Roman squared stones, on a Cyclopean foundation. The names of the magistrates, by whose orders the repairs were done, are mentioned in an inscription.

The questions proposed by the class, having come to the hands of the officers in the army of Spain, excited the attention of the former pupils of the Polytechnic school in particular. One of them, M. Brianchon, lieutenant of artillery, has sent some observations on three kinds of building, found in the walls of Toledo. The foot of the wall appears to be of Cyclopean structure; on this are squared stones; and the top is of brick. Mons. de Marty, a learned Spaniard, and Mons. de Laborde, had noticed three similar structures in the walls of Tarragona, where we find the work of the Romans placed on that of the ancient Spaniards. It may be remarked, that Livy, speaking of the walls of Saguntum, distinguishes by the name of *cementa* the irregular figure of the block of a structure, that he ascribes to very remote times. It is much to be wished, that these inquiries should be pursued in Spain, a country which was known to the Pelasgians of Zancynthus two hundred years before

the Trojan war, though it was but little known to the Hellenes in the time of Strabo.

Thanks to Mr. Dodwell our information respecting Greece has not been defective, as he has answered our questions from Rome, while all the letters of Mons. Fauvel miscarried. The drawings and descriptions of Mons. D. have shown, that there were two varieties of the Cyclopean structure in the walls of Lycosuræ, the most ancient city of Arcadia, one posterior to the other: and there too are other walls, apparently belonging to a time when this structure was no longer in use. This learned traveller has also added to the list of Cyclopean remains already known to us, the ramparts of the citadels of Elatea, Ithaca, Amphisæ, Leucas, and Strymphenus. Helicaïus mentions eighteen cities of the Peloponessus, in the ruins of which he observed only the square blocks of the second age of Grecian antiquities.

Mons. Allier had long ago communicated to us a drawing of a Cyclopean ruin at Delos: and Mons. Fourcade, commissary general at Sinope, has sent us some observations made in the neighbouring islands. In a plain on a mountain in Crete, the site of the ancient citadel of Cydonia, he remarked large ruins, which he supposes to be Cyclopean. This is very probable, when we consider the remote period at which the Telchini settled in Crete, and that of their return to Bœotia, where according to Pausanias, they built cities: for the best critics agree, that the Telchini and the Cyclopeans were the same. Mons. F. has observed the Cyclopean construction also in the walls of the ancient Cythero in the island of Cyprus, of the citadel, and of the temple of the ancient Phenician Venus. They were surmounted with other ruins,

formed of rectangular squared stones equal in workmanship to those that compose the tomb of Atreus at Mycenæ. A similar arrangement was observed in the walls of Melos, by Mons. Jassaud.

On the western coast of Asia, Minor Dr. Chandler has mentioned under the improper name of *incertum* the Cyclopean structures that confine the bed of the Cayster near Ephesus. Mons. le Chevalier had observed the two structures united in the walls of the citadel of Prusa in Bithynia; and in his journey in the Troad, he gave an engraving of a tumulus coated with a wall of Cyclopean structure. Similar remains had been discovered by Mons. Gropius on one of the summits of mount Sipylus, near Smyrna, in the ruins of two cities; and of several tumuli, some being of polygonal, others of squared blocks. The distance of time at which these two cities were founded, seems confirmed by the different structure of the tumuli corresponding to that of the walls. One of these tumuli is 320 feet in circumference, and of a proportional conical height. Mons. Tricon, pursuing the researches of Mons. Gropius on other heights of Sipylus, has discovered the ruins of two other cities, the external walls of which are of Cyclopean structure, while

those of the buildings within are of squared stones. The latter he supposes to be the less ancient; and tumuli of both structures, found in the vicinity, countenance the opinion of their having been formed at two periods. Both however appear to be of high antiquity, as not a single fragment of a column or inscription has been seen among them. He intends to continue his investigation throughout Caria and Ionia.

On the northern coasts of this country, we learn from Mons. Fourcade, that the moles of the ports of Sinope and Amisus are of Cyclopean structure, as are also the most ancient tumuli. One of these tumuli has been opened, and in it were found pieces of gold; that had been cast, and on which characters were perceptible. In his way to France, Mons. F. was obliged to land in the Crimea, and there he found half the peninsula of Kertsch surrounded with gigantic tumuli. They are sixty-six in number, formed of earth coated with blocks of stone. In these we find every gradation of structure that occurs in the walls of the ancient cities of Greece, from the most irregular polygons, almost down to the square. These were probably the tombs of the ancient kings of the Tauric Chersonese.

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTS, MANUFACTURES, &c.

Machine for separating Iron Filings from their mixture with other metals; by Mr. J. D. Ross, of Princess-street, Soho.

THE object of the machine I have invented is to separate iron filings, turnings, &c. from those of brass or finer metals, in place of the

slow and tedious process hitherto employed, which is by a common magnet held in the hand. By my invention many magnets may now be employed at once, combined and attached to a machine on a large scale. The magnetic hammers are so contrived as to take up the iron

filings from the mixture of them with other filings, or metallic particles, placed in the trays or end-boxes, and drop them into the receiving box in the centre, which is effected by the alternate motion of a winch-handle, working the two magnetic hammers placed at the two angles of a quadratt or anchor. In proportion to the power of the magnets and to the force of the blow given by the hammers, a great quantity of iron is separated from the brass, by the alternate motion, and dropped into the receiver placed in the centre of the machine.

I have shewed the model to persons engaged in various metallic works, who gave me great encouragement by their signatures and sanction.

A new invented Reel for Mill-spun yarn.

A Reel, intended for the use of mill-spinners, has been invented by a manufacturer in Montrose, so constructed that it will not move after a thread break; which will entirely prevent the false tell, so much complained of in mill-spun yarn. A model, upon a small scale, is at present in the possession of the inventor, and is acknowledged by all who have seen it, to be both simple and perfect; and, however careless servants may be, it will be impossible for them, without an intended fraud, to make bad work; and more can be done with the new reel, than by the present mode of reeling.

Some remarks on materials used in bleaching, resulting from the late discoveries in chemistry, by Dr. Davy.

The acid known by the name of oxymuriatic acid, and so important in the process of bleaching, has been stated by Lavoisier, and the French chemists to be a compound of muriatic and oxygen; but Dr. Davy asserts that it is a simple substance *sui generis*, not containing oxygen, but possessing of itself an acidifying principle when combined with an inflammable basis. Muriatic acid is, according to Dr. Davy, a compound of this principle with hydrogen. Some of the experiments exhibited in support of this opinion, are the following:—Perfectly dry oxymuriatic acid gas and hydrogen gas were burned together without any water being produced, which must have been the case had this gas contained oxygen. The result of this combination, is muriatic acid only. Phosphorus; and other inflammable substances burned in this gas; yield results very different from combinations with oxygen. When the alkalis are heated in this gas, they form what are called muriats. The oxygen of the alkalis is given out. According to Dr. Davy, muriat of soda or common salt, is a more simple substance than what is called pure soda; for the muriat of soda is the metal of soda united with what is improperly called oxymuriatic gas, but soda contains the metal united with oxygen and water. If this opinion were true, the class of muriats would be excluded from chemical compounds, but we confess we cannot see any reason why muriatic acid, what ever be its constituent parts, should not be as capable of uniting with the alkalis to form a salt, as nitric and other acids. Many eminent chemists are still unwilling to admit Dr. Davy's conclusions respecting oxymuriatic acid, or what he now calls chlorine, from its yellow colour: and the question respecting its constituent parts may still be considered as *sub-judice*. Dr. Davy has discovered a new gas, which is formed by the union of oxymuriatic or chlorine gas with oxygen, their af-

fixion is as follows:—
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finity for each other is weak. When a stream of nitrous gas is passed into this compound gas, it unites with the oxygen and forms nitrous acid, leaving the chlorine gas unaltered in its properties.

The effect of oxymuriatic acid in bleaching he explained by the affinity of this gas for the hydrogen of water, forming with it muriatic acid, which acted on the vegetable fibre; the oxygen of the water acting at the same time on the colouring matter. The corrosive effects of muriatic acid during this process are lessened if the oxymuriat of lime be used. The oxymuriat of potash is the least prejudicial, but its price will prevent its application to the purpose of bleaching. Dr. Davy stated, he had found that the oxymuriat of magnesia may be used with great advantage; though its bleaching property is not so rapid in its operation, it is much less injurious

than oxymuriat of lime which is commonly used. The oxymuriat of magnesia will serve repeatedly for the same purpose. If heat be applied to it after it has been used, the hydrogen is expelled, and it is restored to its former state.

[*London Monthly Magazine.*]

Remarks on the subject of bleaching would be very acceptable from our chemical readers. In this country, notwithstanding the expense is greater, muriat of potash is much used instead of this muriat of lime, on account of its greater safety, in case sufficient washing is not afterwards applied. In this point, there is always a considerable risque, as perhaps in none of the processes of bleaching are we more deficient, than in washing. To neglect in this respect we are inclined to attribute most of the damages arising in bleaching in this country.

LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of the Life, Writings, and Correspondence of the late Mr. Wm. Smellie, printer; Secretary and Superintendent of Natural History to the Society of Scottish Antiquaries, F.R.S.; by Robert Kerr Porter, F.R.S. £1. 7s.

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On National Education, by Geo. Ensom, author of *National Government*, &c. in 1 vol. 8vo. 9s bds.

A Book of Writing Pieces, for the Use of Schools and Families; by R. Ellingworth, teacher of Writing, &c. at York, 8s. finely engraved.

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The British Review, and *London Critical Journal*, No. 2.

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form are considered; by J. Cartwright, esq.

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Poems, by the late Edward Lysaght, esq. barrister at law, with a portrait, 7s. 6d. bds.

Middleton's Tables of Interest, at 6 per cent, shewing at one view the interest of any sum from £1. to £10,000, from 1 day to 100 days, &c. 8s. 8d. half bound.

MONTHLY RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

IN the debate on the 31st May, upon the Catholic petition, there appeared in a division of 146 against 83 to be a majority of 63 against referring the petition to a committee of the whole house.

Thus the Catholics have been once more repelled from the gates of the constitution, and are obliged to take up their residence in that sort of tumble-down half-way house, between rank persecution, and common right, which goes by the name of *toleration*. There is a certain, happy knack of fashionable phraseology, which covers sharp and severe usage in a soft sheath, and which sometimes imposes upon both parties, the party that uses, and the party that is abused. Thus, for example, a man who has perhaps committed the most shameful speculation in office, or who has cheated the public of thousands, is said, in polite company, to have behaved *incorrectly*, as if he had been merely a sorry arithmetician, and made an accidental mistake in giving the sum total of an account. Often have we heard it said, "I am sorry for the poor fellow; very sorry indeed, but he has certainly been very *incorrect*." Thus too, in our political nomenclature, the nature of things is perverted. When Percival talks of *toleration*, what is it but the Leopard, or rather the Cat *Persecution*, which sheathes its claws; and makes all the time a hypocritical purring about love and conciliation. Thus *subjection*, is called *subordination*; and *domination*, is called *ascendancy*; and a claim of *common-right* is called an unreasonable assumption of political *power*. The Birth-right withheld, is changed into a Bonus at the will of the granter, and the pre-

mier, like the premier of Egypt, first peculates a hoard of privilege from the common stock, and then would, from this granary, dole out his graces and free gifts to the People.

In truth the misapplication of terms has had at least as ill consequences in morality as in philosophy. Men are often the very slaves of two or three sounding syllables. Mr. Petherall most kindly intimates, in the course of this last debate upon the Catholic question, that he puts not forth half his strength, that he has a hoard of bigotry in reserve (he would call it British spirit) which, when he chooses, he can call forth, but thinks it unnecessary, in the certain victory of the day.

Ah!—we do not doubt it. We do not, in the smallest degree, doubt, that with the help of two magical words placed in proper order, and repeated with proper emphasis, with the two words, "*Church and King*," he could raise a social war in these countries. Rhoderic Dhu could not do greater wonders with his whistle. The Literati, and the Laity, and the heads and tails of Colleges, and the proctors and doctors would start up in holy insurrection. The pulpits, as once they were instructed to do, would again prolong and magnify the pious clamour. The press would pour forth a swarm of pamphleteers, and grasshopper poets would chirp through all the under wood of Parnassus. Each time, as it were, teems with its appropriate insanity. Old women are no longer burned for witches, but a whole people is distrusted, and partially incapacitated for their belief in transubstantiation.

Little of novelty could be expected in this debate. What we liked as

well, was somewhat of the old proof spirit which distinguished the Irish orator in an Irish house of commons; and indeed one happy effect of this sessional debate upon the Catholic question is to bring, at least occasionally, Ireland, home to the heart, gradually obliterated as it is by expatriation, and the habits of the metropolis.—Immersed in this vast vat of selfishness, and venality, all assume the same tint; the distinctive and characteristic colouring is lost. “*Obliti meorum, obliviscendi et illis.*” “Forgetting their country and by their country forgotten.”

We may even observe in a number of individuals, the progress and different stages of this dereliction. Thus in Edmund Burke, when he had forsaken even the whig aristocracy and told us that “the grand and swelling sentiments of liberty he only, *did not despise!*” even then, he preserved an *hibernicism* of feeling when all the other bright colours of his character were utterly effaced and destroyed. This indeed was preserved in the ground of that character, by the mordant of his real religion. His patriotism was rather Catholic, than Irish. In Sheridan, the remembrance of his country, occasionally, not frequently, flashes from his genius, and taste. It appears the imagery of his fertile fancy, rather than the idol of the feeling heart, delighting all who contemplate the sublime, and shifting concuscation, which suddenly sinks into long periods of obscurity and oblivion. And so the thermometer of an Irish feeling may be graduated from the generous glow of Grattan, to the tepid Ponsonby, and thence to the frigidity of Foster, and from that, to the icy insensibility of Caning and Castlereagh, the extreme points of the scale, Irishmen, who when they cannot be ministers still wish to act in the character of mi-

nisterial supplicants, and hover like ghosts, about the graves of their departed offices.

In this debate, the genius of Grattan seems to have experienced a rejuvenescence. There was an apprehension that he was wholly translated or *done into English*, but when he apostrophizes liberty with such fervour, we believe he almost forgot where he was standing. “Liberty! which, like the deity, is an essential spirit best known by its consequences. Liberty! which now animates you in your battles, and lifts you up proudly superior to your enemies. Liberty! that glorious spark and emanation of divinity which fired your ancestors, and taught them to feel, like a Hampden, that it was not life, but the condition of living. An Irishman sympathises in those noble sentiments (here Lord Castlereagh yawned) wherever he goes, to whatever quarter of the earth he journeys, whatever wind blows upon his poor garments let him have but the pride, the glory, the ostentation of liberty.”—At the conclusion of this period, Mr. Percival with something between a smile and a sneer, would exclaim, “very fine, very fine, indeed,” and even someone on the neighbouring benches might venture to give a “Hear him.” Yet we dare to say the orator felt himself a little awkward, when he lost the casual inspiration, and felt how fugitive was the impression of eloquence, such as once agitated, and elevated a whole nation, upon an audience of English financiers, lawyers, and country gentlemen. The Catholic petition of right, was rejected.

Nothing however was better calculated to soothe the minds of the Catholics, suffering under this reiterated and we think, on the part of the minister, this contumelious rejection, than the invitation given to their De-

legates on the 8th inst. by an assembly of the first in rank and the most distinguished in talents, under the title of "Friends of religious liberty, (we would have added *political* to the word religious) at which dinner one of the confidential friends of the Prince Regent presided, and gave the most auspicious hope of future success. We join from this corner, with our hopes, and our prayers, but we confess, that notwithstanding even the sanction of the prince, we fear the muster of Mr. Perceval's corps de reserve. Why should we conceal it? We fear the worst from the intolerant spirit of the people of England, not merely the bigotry of a party, but that of the people. We know that there are numerous and glorious exceptions, but it is with the conviction of experience, and the evidence of melancholy facts, we draw a conclusion, that the mass of the English nation is of high church religion and tory politics, in both, inimical to Catholic emancipation or to constitutional reform. May we be mistaken in our opinion!—but if our opinion be a right one, may it then be the glorious ambition of a PATRIOT PRINCE to enlighten his people with the knowledge of their true interests, to show them that much national prosperity may exist without overbearing monopoly; that perpetual war is not the perfection of human policy; and that the happiness of mankind, either in the individual or in the community, multiplies by participation. The product of labour increases astonishingly by division. Why has not government practised the art of increasing liberty, also, by a just division?

On the 10th inst. a meeting took place in London, of the friends of Parliamentary reform. We have before declared it as our belief, that this event is never likely to take place, but under the compulsion of

extraordinary circumstances, and we acknowledge that, on this question too, we feel apprehension from a certain powerful as well as *popular* bigotry, with respect to the inalterability, and identity of the whole constitution, taken, as it happens to exist, with all its errors, and all its perfections, confounded and consolidated into an idol to be worshipped, not to be meddled with by mortal hands.

We are apt to exclaim against the Catholic for his belief in the unity, identity and immutability of his religion. The Protestant sets up a civil constitution, dressed with the very same attributes, and feels the same violent prejudices against all who would venture to amend or reform it. This is the POLITICAL POPEERY too common in England. They ridicule those who enshrine religion in the bosoms of their priests, from whence its divinity is doled out to the ignorant multitude, and with a similar superstition, they themselves enshrine the British constitution in the peculators of the public rights, and in this borough-mongering depository of relics, they idolize the divinity of public liberty, and the integrity of the legislature.

For our parts, we declare ourselves Protestant Dissenters in a *double* sense. We protest against the errors and abuses that defaced and defiled christianity, and therefore acknowledge and glory in the blessing of that great event, the REFORMATION. In the very same manner, and nearly in the same degree, do we protest against, and dissent from, the abuses that have at different times polluted the British constitution, and we therefore shall for ever applaud the glorious revolution. And when errors, abuses, and crimes again accumulate, and public and private immorality has again corrupted, changed, and adulterated this same constitution,

we shall, with all our souls, hail the happy day of its REFORM and REGENERATION.

It is perhaps our anxiety about reform, that makes us fearful of its success, that makes us more disposed to look to the patriotic patronage of the Prince, than to any warm pursuit on the part of the people. Numerous individuals, we well know, there are, and chiefly in the middle ranks, enlightened and warmed with the subject, sound and staunch whigs, not place-hunting, pendulating, political weather-wise whigs, but seeking the renovation of the constitution of England, in the honesty of their hearts, and with what may be called, both by their friends and their enemies, an inveterate perseverance. Major Cartwright is the representative of this portion of the people. It is only a portion.

The character of the country, taken in the mass, is changed. It is of a different turn and disposition from what it has been. Not only public spirit is diluted, but public taste is degraded. In theatric entertainments, Shakespeare and Sheridan, and Siddons, are driven off the stage by a troop of horse. Dogs, baiting a stuffed bull or bear, attended in the evening with the acclamations of a people, who have, in the morning, been delighted with the persevering pugilism of Molineaux and Crib. If we get nothing better from abroad, we shall probably import the bull-fights from the peninsula.

As to the press, shall we say that no man can now venture to write freely, until he be put into prison. What is the press but a machine of wood and metal, and a pulp of rotten rags, without being animated by public spirit. It may be turned into a screw for impoverishing the public mind, robbing it of its generous juices, and leaving nothing but flatness and insipidity. How are

we to estimate the spirit of the public journals, when such paragraphs as the one* quoted at the bottom of the page, are circulated through the three kingdoms, and read by the descendants of Russell, and Cavendish, and Hampden?

We say, again, the character of England is changed. It is, we fear, reckless of a reform. "With a revenue of nearly ninety millions a year, with an army and navy that gives to government the disposal of three thousand commissions per an. With almost every freeholder, and indeed every third man, by one means or another, brought within the vortex of the influence of the crown, with every thing seeming to be hurrying us into the enlargement and perpetuation of the military system." What are we to calculate upon the success of reform? Will the appeal be attended to, when made to such a people? In England, and Scotland, taken in the mass, patriotism resolves itself into antigallicism. It is hatred of an enemy which instigates, rather than the hallowed love of country, which elevates and inspires. Loyalty is merely antijacobinism, and all the hypocritical admiration of the constitution, but a bigotry of anti reform. The public passions are all *antipathies*. With

* When the express arrived with the account of Lord Melville's death, on Saturday morning, at the house of Mr. R. Dundas, now Viscount Melville, his carriage was just ready to take his children an airing, (well—what dreadful accident then occurred? Did the horses run off, and was the son to lament the loss of his children, as well as of his father?), the order was in consequence countermanded; the carriage sent to the coachmaker, to have the box taken off, and a dickey put on for the purpose of a servant to sit in, and the present Viscount set off for Edinburgh at three o'clock.—See, for this remarkable event all the public papers of the British empire.

whom or what does Britain *sympathise*? How does she study to gain affection, to make and to keep friends, to conciliate even her own brethren, who fight for her cause, and die in her battles?

In short, the war itself is the great ANTI-REFORMER. For the purpose of diverting the public mind from the direction of political reform, was it first entered into, and for the same purpose (when all other purposes are found to have failed) will it be carried on. England has been a disciple of war, and is now thoroughly disciplined to it. She is made to believe, and she does believe that all her liberty, and all her rights, and, dearer still, all her property, depend upon it. Will Sir Francis Burdett, or Mr. Brand, or Major Cartwright, or Mr. Roscoe, remove the film of infatuation, or cure this sore malady of the PEOPLE. Alas! like other physicians, they have more will than ability. The Genius of British freedom declines, and verges to decrepitude. It takes a seat beside Horne Tooke, and looks down upon its own sepulchre.

The bill for the interchange of the militia in both countries has passed, and certainly seems to place the Catholics in a severe predicament; to quit the service, or in quitting their country to quit also the exercise of the rites of their religion, no slight means of preserving the reality of it in the mind. Every thing seems done to accomplish the union for the purpose of war, nothing is done to perfect it for the purposes of peace. Before it was passed, it was said that the plan appeared more a military manœuvre than a political idea, proceeding from the bosom of a parental, providential, impartial care, from any consideration of equal relationship to the whole family of the people, any prospective view of liberal and mag-

nanimous policy. Such bills as the present give strength to that prediction. They appear to be passed with the immediate design of sending all the regiments of the line abroad, and ultimately, to change the militia itself into a disposable force.

It has been asserted that there never was any the least infringement of the religious liberty of the Catholics only a prevention of their obtaining the least political power. And that, even now, they will be permitted, by military favour, an attendance upon their own places of worship, although excluded from any legal right of such attendance. But in a country with respect to their religion a desert, in what manner, or under what form will they be able to perform its duties, without a minister of that religion? of what use is even the permitted portion of religious liberty when there is no opportunity of making use of it? Without having a priest attached to each regiment, they cannot partake in those rites, which are deemed necessary event to salvation. He is their bible, their blessing in life, their consolation in death. Is it the intention of ministry to convert all the Catholics into Protestants, or to pervert them into infidels? to take them from what they judge a bad religion, by leaving them without religion at all?

We will not do even Mr. Percival the injustice to suppose that the interchange of militia could possibly have been suggested by an apprehension that the safety of Ireland, was, by this means, better secured against invasion. Whoever entertains such an apprehension, most iniquitously and injuriously defames the Irish nation. Whoever asserts it, asserts a falsehood. No, we will not indeed revile, and abuse the enemy with base and opprobrious

appellations, which degrade those who bestow them, not him upon whom they are bestowed. But we will (and in this, at least, we believe ourselves the popular representatives of the whole community) we will defend our country, our homes, our wives and our children against a French invader, to the utmost extremity, to the last drop of blood. What can an *English* militia do more? We know it well. If ever an invasion be made of Ireland, it is for *FRENCH* purposes alone it will be made, whatever may be the pretext of the invader there can be no doubt of his purposes. Rome professed a desire to emancipate and deliver Greece; for what end? If there be a French party in Ireland, it must be a party of *Frenchmen*. No,—No,—“unkindness may do much,” and their unkindness may defeat our lives, but never will it taint our constitutional loyalty.

It is the malicious artifice of those anti-jacobins, and anti-reformers, and antagonists of Catholic right, that calumniate the country, in order to confound the Catholic question with the antigallican horror which prevails throughout England. Thus they contrive, as in the instance of Mr. Grattan, to impose upon the credulity often associated with great genius, and the cullibility as often attendant upon an excellent heart.

It is by the uninterrupted agitation of this antigallican horror, that all public spirit in Britain has been so long and so successfully repressed, for the purposes of an insidious faction. For the same purposes, this same faction endeavours to associate and assimilate every public redress, every constitutional improvement, with the same overruling impression, until the powers and faculties of the whole nation are, as it were, bound

up by magical incantation, and it stands staring upon the opposite and hostile shore, like a maniac, rather than a man. “Why thus cast off your children?” “They are in league with the enemy.” Why deal about your blows upon your brethren?—“They are in conspiracy against my life. They are a French party.”—Why thus tear to pieces magna charta, and the bill of rights?—“They are scrolls sent from the enemy.” What! have you no recollection of this man, or this, or this?—“Yes, I know them perfectly well. They are all spies of Bonaparte.”—Unhappy country! miserable infatuation!

Human nature is thus constituted. When any passion, even one of the best kind, (under proper regulation) usurps the total and exclusive monopoly of the man, or of the million, all the other affections lose their accustomed aliment, wither, decay, and the person, or the public, under such circumstances, in vulgar but emphatic language, is said to be *possessed*. Thus religion in the Indian Brahman, with close-shut eyes, and folded arms, and with all the duties and cares of life, cast, neglected, at his feet. Thus love grows suspicious, thinks every man a rival, harbours vain surmises and jealousies, and torments both itself and the object of its insane idolatry. Thus patriotism, the glory and grandeur of a country, has been seen to degenerate by exclusive cultivation, into a proud, selfish, domineering passion, an intolerance bordering upon persecution, a greedy indulgence of all the vindictive propensities of human nature, against what is impiously and inhumanly called a *natural* enemy. As if God had made men, and divided them into nations, for the sole purpose of waging an internecine

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and eternal war against each other. Deliver us, and our children, from such derangements of the intellect, such depravations of the heart. Grant us that equipoise of powers and passions, which gives us the mastery of ourselves, and that unanimity which makes a nation wage war only for the sake of a just and honourable peace, and even in their necessary efforts against an enemy, never loses sight of the recollection, that he may eventually become the warmest friend. This we believe not only the most upright conduct, but also, the truest policy, of a great and generous people. Great Britain will be little without it. Her glory will go off like her gold; and her patriotism will suffer a depreciation, like her paper, in the estimation of the world, and in the judgment of posterity.

Although the Catholic claims have for the present been rejected in parliament, their cause may be not altogether hopeless of eventually succeeding at no very distant period. The address of the Catholics to remove the Duke of Richmond, and W. W. Pole, has been published in the Gazette, and noted as "graciously received." This circumstance may be accepted as an indication of the private sentiments of the Regent, and may quiet the fears of those who, affected to be fearful of offending him, by praying for the removal of part of that ministry which from prudential motives, he for a time permits to remain in place. An address from a meeting of the gentlemen, clergy, magistrates, and freeholders of the town and vicinity of Dingle, to Counsellor O'Connell, has brought out an excellent reply from him. They will be found among the documents. Most sincerely do we rejoice to see such sentiments gain ground among our Ca-

tholic brethren, who thus support the cause of religious liberty, on broad principles. Unjustly treated themselves, they, notwithstanding, advocate those rights for others which are denied to themselves.

IS THERE A PUBLIC? Does there exist at present such a decided expression of public opinion, as, if not altogether capable of restraining all undue exercise of power on the part of the class of governors, at least prevents further encroachments by them, on the rights of the people? In Ireland, with the exception of the Catholics claiming the restoration of their undoubted rights, the question must be answered in the negative. The public will is not embodied. In Great Britain symptoms occasionally appear, which demonstrate a restoration of public opinion. The Pittite system had nearly extinguished it, but by slow degrees it is acquiring strength. The Protestant Dissenters, in their united and firm opposition to Lord Sidmouth's bill, showed that a general expression of the public will had a very powerful effect. The struggles for parliamentary reform, we trust, will further elicit a spark of that public spirit, which in better days honorably distinguished the name of Britons. The very opposition made to reform is likely to be productive of good, by exciting attention to this most important subject, and supplying a power of reprimand to the friends of reform, to assist them to overcome the resistance made by those who draw selfish advantages from public miseries. The Common Council of the city of London had agreed to grant the use of Guildhall to a meeting of the advocates of reform, which was appointed to be held on the 3d inst. Some Aldermen took alarm, and passed a resolution at their board a-

against the grant, and a number of persons, who styled themselves the Loyal Liverymen, petitioned the Common Council to revoke the grant, to which that *consensus* body consented, although the Livery of London had the day before in a Common Hall approved of the grant of Guildhall, for the purpose of the meeting, and passed resolutions highly favorable to the cause of reform. The meeting was postponed to the 10th, when it was held at the Freemasons-tavern, but was not so largely attended as was expected. Some from the country returned, perhaps disappointed by the delay in holding the meeting, but a lack of public spirit may probably be more justly considered as the cause of the defection. Some of the noted reformers of 1793, stand aloof, and manifest that they are apostates to the cause. Resolutions declarative of the necessity of reform were entered into, but according, to a previously concerted agreement, no specific plan was proposed. This was a compromise between the two set of reformers, at the head of one stands Thomas Brand, and of the other Sir Francis Burdett, and like all other compromises, appears to have had the effect of enfeebling. Reform, to be of any avail, must be thorough, and all of a piece, otherwise the new parts will not fit with the remaining corruptions. Triennial parliaments will not be of any advantage, unless the elective franchise is kept pure, as far as concerns both the electors and the representatives. The frequent returns to their constituents will not promote political soundness, unless by wise precautions, and the infusion of greater purity into elections, the present evils of contests on such occasions are prevented. Laws might be wisely framed, so as to have a

powerful effect in changing the manners of a people, but, alas! of this very desirable and enlightened system of legislation speedily being accomplished, we cannot at present form high expectations. Instead of a cordial co-operation, and a drawing all together, mutual jealousies and selfish partialities seem likely to frustrate any results beneficial to the country. Probably these nations must still be more miserable before they will be sufficiently instructed to adopt wise remedies.

Pitt's birth-day has been celebrated as usual in London by placemen, pensioners, and contractors, who take this opportunity of applauding and attempting to uphold that system, which cherished abuses by which they have been benefited, while the nation has been impoverished. The venal prints have taken the opportunity of the recent death of Lord Melville to celebrate his merits. He also was one of the worthies of the school of corruption. The supporter of the American war, and the coadjutor of Lord North, readily assimilated in the crusade against liberty in France, and in his friendship to William Pitt; a friendship, which he would have been equally ready to transfer to any person who for the time being held the premiership, or the powers of distributing the favours of the crown. Lord Melville is praised for his services to his country. Even on the most favourable estimate of his motives, and of the value of his services, he was not disinterested. He did not serve his country for nought. While his character allowed him to retain office, and till Samuel Whitbread by his impeachment of him fixed such a stigma on him, that although nominally acquitted, Perceval was afraid to risque employing him again, he clung to place, and possessed no

small share of the plunder of the public purse. These emoluments of office, and his own sinecures, and the places and sinecures of his son, are the best comments on his disinterested love of country. The Scotch prints have been loud in his praise. Possessing the chief share of patronage in Scotland for many years, he would doubtless have many adherents, but probably few friends, for friendship is too exalted a name for that intercourse of traffic which subsists between courtiers, and between patrons and dependants.

In our last number we noticed the return of the Duke of York to the office of Commander in Chief of the Army. This month Lord Milton brought forward in the house of commons a vote of censure on the advisers of this measure, which was negatived by the large majority of 296 to 47. Many of those whom the powerful conviction of the moment forced into a temporary act of virtue at the period of the investigation, were on the present occasion active in making a hypocritical profession of their recantation; as if ashamed of being for once caught in a right act, they are loud in renouncing all the merits arising from it, and boast of returning into the old track. It angers all of a state, and of the maxims of its policy, when the legislators of a country scoff at virtue, and denominate a temporary burst of honesty by the name of puritomania, as if indeed virtue were only a frenzy. This is one of those symptoms of the prevalence of the general corruption of manners, which the moralist views with alarming foreboding. The superficial observer may not minutely mark such traits in the public character, but to those who watch over the progress of public sentiments, this occurrence affords an in-

dication of the mine, which is secretly, but certainly sapping the edifice of the state. The loss of public and private virtue has in all ages preceded and accelerated the downfall of nations. Attempts were made in the course of the debate, to impeach the credibility due to the accusations against the Duke by reason of the infamy of the witness, and the means used to bring forward her testimony. But the charges were proved by corroborative evidence, in great measure independent of the original informer, and we may also recollect that if Mrs. Clarke was bribed to give evidence, she has since been bribed on the other side, to suppress her book of additional evidence. The pliancy of the house was conspicuous on the present occasion, and in forming a just estimate of character, let us recollect that many of the candidates for office were as conspicuous in their obsequious bowings at the shrine of court favour, as the men who are now in place. The opinion of the army was triumphantly referred to in proof of the propriety of the measure, and of their approbation, but it may be easily seen, that men who look for preferment and advantage, from a prince placed at the head of that establishment, cannot be esteemed disinterested judges, when the character of a personage in such a situation was the subject of consideration. To condemn him was not the road to future favours.

An attempt is made in Ireland by the circulation of a printed paper bearing evident marks of the Castle manufacture, and industriously spread through the medium of the post office, to excite the people to address the Prince Regent, thanking him for the restoration of the Duke. So far as the Prince's intentions have been manifested by his conduct, this

is precisely the age act most liable to objection. But the false spirit of exclusive loyalty fastens on the worst, for its own bye-ends, not the honour of the prince. His real friends would thank him for his noble answer respecting the parliamentary influence of the Duke of Newcastle, his having the address from Westminster inserted in the Gazette, and his "graciously receiving the address from the aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland. The Duke of York's advocates afford another instance of the indiscretion, which throughout the whole business has characterized their proceedings. It is injudicious to revive again the recollection of the disgraceful transaction. They talk of bad motives in the accusers, but how stand the defenders? Are they free from suspicion? Stokes, the attorney, by whose evidence Wright was acquitted of the indictment for perjury has wrung from Counsellor Alley a disclosure of the confession made by Stokes, that he expected at least £2000, per annum, for his services in his attempts to restore the Duke. On which side do corrupt motives preponderate? Of the addresses on the present occasion how many are influenced by the hopes of preferment for their friends and relatives in the military line?

Henry Parnell has again brought forward in the house of commons the subject of tithes, but he had a thin auditory, and lost his question to pledge the house to take up the consideration of the subject by a majority of 54 to 29. He however promised to resume the subject in next session. Tithes are most oppressive to the peasantry of Ireland, the great majority of whom have to support two priesthoods. Wellesley Pole has announced that he has given up any endeavours to ameliorate this

system, although he said the subject had occupied his early attention, and been near and dear to him. Thus men persuade themselves to think differently when in and out of office. The overwhelming influence of the church deters statesmen from interference, even when their better judgment points out the necessity.

The three bills introduced into parliament by Sir Samuel Romilly for taking away the capital part of the felony from stealing in private houses and shops, and on navigable canals, after having passed the commons through two divisions, in which he had a respectable majority was thrown out in the house of Lords in a very thin house; only ten Peers voting for them, the ministerial and law lords being decidedly hostile to them. But two bills were permitted to pass in consequence of the petitions from the bleachers of this country and the calico printers in England, by which stealing out of a bleach-green or print-yard are no longer capital felonies, but to be punished by transportation or confinement in penitentiary houses at the option of the judge. Thus one step has been successfully made, which it may be hoped will tend to facilitate the humane, benevolent and judicious plans of Sir Samuel Romilly to reform the criminal law. A consolatory hope is held out that reform will be progressive. Reforms are at first decried and opposed under the dreaded name of innovation. At length in some instances a little is conceded, and then something more, till at the end, the wished for reform is achieved by slow degrees, and the victory of a liberal and enlightened policy over prejudice is completed.

We meet with the following paragraph in the public papers, which deserves attention, as an instance of

bigotry, at a period when we hoped more liberal sentiments had generally prevailed. Although knowledge and liberality are making progress, some stragglers lag behind in the march of mind, and would fain, if they could, bring back the darkness of older times. They mistake the times in which they live, and as far as they have power, would reduce us to endure the fanaticism and intolerance of the days of John Knox: "On the 25th ult. the general assembly of the church of Scotland passed a resolution; that the Sunday School taught by Mr. Muir, in Glasgow, ought to be suppressed, as he entertains most erroneous religious opinions, and if the efforts of the Presbytery are ineffectual, that they should apply to the civil magistrate to enforce their authority. And that to teach school, during service on the Sabbath-day is illegal, and punishable by a magistrate."

A man with a shorter creed than his neighbour's, may benevolently assist to teach the poor to read and spell. Who is to judge, if his opinions are erroneous or just? The assumption of a power to judge in these instances, leads at once to the infringement of the liberty of religious opinions. In this case we have a fresh instance that the church is ready to call on the state to support her authority, and that the desire to persecute is not extinct.

The hopes of the war faction have been again revived, by some expressions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, which pointed to a probability of a rupture between France and Russia, and revived the hopes of another coalition. When will a nation learn wisdom from former errors, and be weaned by fatal experience from cherishing fallacious hopes!

The victories of Almeida and Albuera have been dearly purchased, by such immense losses, as with some to throw a shade of doubt whether victories they may be called. They are at least repulses of the French, but they cost dearly, and will not probably have any beneficial effect on the result of the campaign. Wars form now a question of numbers and finance. France from its superior population can bear a waste, which, estimating human life only as a mercantile speculation, these countries cannot endure on the scale of our comparatively limited population. On this calculation, France bids fair ultimately to succeed.

DOCUMENTS.

As the subject of confinement in penitentiary houses, is closely connected with the mitigation of the criminal code, we have procured the following copy of a bill introduced into the House of Commons, by W. W. Pole. If transportation or confinement in houses of correction are made effective punishments, capital punishments, at least for inferior offences, may be safely dispensed with, but at present they are not enforced with sufficient strictness. Many sentenced to transportation escape that the expense may be saved, and confinement without a reform in the system of such houses, will but harden, not amend offenders.

A Bill to authorize the punishment, by confinement and hard labour, of persons in Ireland, liable to transportation; and to repeal so much of a former act, as relates to that subject.

Ordered by the house of Commons to be printed, May 17th, 1811.

Whereas by an act of parliament passed in Ireland in the seventeenth and eighteenth years of his Majesty's reign, intituled, "An act to authorise for a limited time the punishment by hard labour of offenders who for certain crimes are or shall become liable to be transported to any of his Majesty's colonies, and plantations," it was a-

monet, other things enacted, that where any person should be convicted of any offence for which he or she should be liable by law to transportation, it should be lawful for the court, in place of transportation, to order that such person should be sent to some place of confinement to be there kept to hard labour, in manner in said act provided :

And whereas the said act has been since made perpetual :

And whereas the provisions of the said act in that respect have been found ineffectual ;

Be it therefore enacted by the King's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that so much of the said act as relates to the ordering or adjudging any such convict, or any convict to labour in any such place of confinement, and all and every clause and provision in said act relating thereto, be and the same are hereby repealed ; save only so far as relates to any such sentence order or adjudication, passed or made before the passing of this act, or the provisions necessary for carrying the same into execution.

+ And be it further enacted, that where any person shall at any session of Oyer and Terminer or gaol delivery, or any quarter or other general sessions of the peace for any county city town or place in that part of the united kingdom called Ireland, be lawfully convicted of any crime for which he or she shall be liable by law to transportation, it shall be lawful for the court before which such offender shall be so convicted, or any court held for the same place and with like authority, if such court shall think fit, in the place of such punishment by transportation, to order and judge that such person shall be sent to some house of correction or penitentiary within the said county, city, town or place, to be appointed in and by such order, there to be kept to hard labour for such time or for such term or number of years as such court shall appoint ; provided that the same shall in no case be more than years : provided always, that it shall be lawful for the court before which any offender or offenders shall be so convicted, to order such offender to be or for any time less than or to suffer such other punishment as such

offenders are liable to, and as may be inflicted on such offenders by law ; any thing herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

And be it further enacted, that when any offender shall be ordered to be kept to hard labour in manner aforesaid, the clerk of the peace or other clerk of the court by which such order shall be made, shall give to the sheriff or gaoler having the custody of such offender, a certificate in writing under his hand containing an account of the christian name, surname and age of such offender, of his or her offence, of the court before whom he or she was convicted, and of the term for which he or she shall have been so ordered to hard labour ; and the sheriff or gaoler shall with all convenient speed after the making of any such order and receiving of such certificate, convey such offender or cause him or her to be conveyed to the proper house of correction or penitentiary, and deliver such offender or cause him or her to be delivered, together with the said certificate, into the custody of the master or keeper of such house of correction ; and the person and persons to whom such offender shall be so delivered, shall give a proper receipt in writing under his or their hand or hands, which shall be a sufficient discharge to the sheriff, gaoler or other person so delivering any such offender :

And be it further enacted, that all expenses incurred by any sheriff or gaoler, in the conveyance of any such offender as aforesaid, shall be paid by the county, city, town, or place, for which the court ordering such punishment by hard labour, instead of transportation, shall be held ; and the sheriff or gaoler shall receive the money due for such expenses from the treasurer of such county, city, town or place, by order of the justices of the peace thereof, at their quarterly or other general sessions, who are hereby required to make such order accordingly, and the same shall be presented by the grand jury of such county, city, or town, at the next assizes or presenting term therein :

And be it further enacted, that if any person shall rescue any offender who by force of this act shall be ordered to hard labour in any house of correction as aforesaid, either in his conveyance to the place so appointed for such hard labour, or whilst such offender under this act shall be in the custody of the person or persons

appointed for that purpose; or if any person shall be aiding or assisting in such rescue; or if any person not having the actual custody of any such offender shall be aiding and assisting in any escape, or shall by supplying arms or instruments of disguise or escape, or otherwise in any manner be aiding and assisting in the attempt to make any such escape, though no such escape shall be made, every such person on being convicted of such offence by indictment before any court of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery held in and for the place where such offence shall be committed, shall be by such court adjudged and ordered to the same portion of hard labour in some house of correction as the person rescued or escaped or attempted to be aided in any escape, had to serve or suffer at the time of such rescue, escape or attempt of an escape.

And be it further enacted, That if any person who shall be so ordered to hard labour as aforesaid, shall at any time during the term for which he or she shall be so ordered to hard labour, break prison, or escape from the place of his or her confinement, or from the person or persons having the lawful custody of such offender, he or she so breaking prison or escaping shall, on conviction for the first escape, be punished by the term of the service and hard labour to which he or she was liable at the time of such escape, and on conviction for a second escape be adjudged guilty of

And, to the intent that such conviction or convictions may be had with as little trouble and expense as possible, be it further enacted, That every offender or offenders escaping in manner aforesaid, may and shall be tried before the justices of assize oyer and terminer or gaol delivery, for the county, city, or place, where he, she, or they shall be apprehended and taken; and that the clerk of the peace where such order of confinement and hard labour shall be made, and his successor for the time being, shall, at the request of the prosecutor, or any other in his Majesty's behalf, certify a transcript briefly, and in few words, containing the effect of every indictment and conviction of such person, and of the order made for his or her confinement and hard labour, to the justices of assize oyer and terminer and gaol delivery, where such person shall be indicted for any such escape, not taking for the

same above the sum of which certificate being produced in court, shall be a sufficient proof that such person or persons have before been convicted, and ordered to such place of confinement and hard labour.

Provided always, and be it further enacted, That such clerk of the peace, and the sheriff or gaoler, be paid by the treasurer of the county, city, town, or place, the like satisfaction as hath been usually paid for the order of transportation of any offender.

Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the offender or offenders, who shall by virtue of this act be directed to be confined and kept to hard labour, shall, in such house of correction, be kept separate from, and shall not be permitted or suffered to intermix with any person or persons confined for any offence, not making the person or persons having committed the same subject to a sentence of transportation.

And be it further enacted, That the overseers or keepers of the several houses of correction, or penitentiary, in which any prisoner so sentenced to hard labour, shall be confined, shall from time to time make returns, specifying the names of all and every the person or persons who shall be so committed to their custody, the offences of which they shall have been guilty, the court before which each person was convicted, the sentence of the court, the age, bodily state and behaviour of every such convict while in custody; and also the names of all and every the person or persons who shall have died under such custody, or shall have escaped from such place of confinement, or shall have been released from thence (specifying the mode of such release); such returns to be made to the justices of assize at each assizes, and to the justices of peace at each quarter or other general sessions of the peace, for the county, city, or place, within which such place of confinement shall be situated; and that every such return shall be verified on the oath of the person making the same, such oath to be made before the court into which the return shall be delivered.

And be it further enacted, That every offender who shall be delivered to be kept to hard labour in manner aforesaid, shall, at the end of the term of such sentence, and upon being restored to liberty,

receive from the keeper of such house of correction, such sum of money, not being less than nor more than together with such decent clothing as the court into which such return shall be made as aforesaid shall appoint; and if any such offender, whilst confined to hard labour in manner aforesaid, shall by industry and other good behaviour, show such signs of reformation as shall induce the said court to recommend him as an object of mercy to the Lord Lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors of Ireland for the time being, and it shall be thereupon signified by a letter from such secretary to the keeper of such house of correction or penitentiary, that the Lord Lieutenant, or other chief governor or governors of Ireland for the time being, thinks or think fit, in consideration of such good behaviour, to shorten the duration of such offender's term, such offender shall be accordingly set at liberty at the time mentioned in such letter, and shall receive a sum of money from such keeper, and clothing, in the same manner as if he or she had served the whole of the term, for which he or she was adjudged to serve.

And be it further enacted, that such keeper shall receive such sum of money, and the reasonable price of such clothing so given by him as aforesaid, from the treasurer of the county city or town, by order of the justices of the peace thereof, at their quarterly or other general sessions, who are hereby required to make such order accordingly; and the same shall be presented by the grand jury of such county, city, or town, at the next assizes or presenting term.

And be it further enacted, That if any suit or action shall be prosecuted against any person or persons, for any thing done in pursuance of this act, such person or persons may plead the general issue, and give this act and the special matter in evidence at any trial to be had thereupon, and that the same was done by the authority of this act; and if a verdict shall pass for the defendant or defendants, or the plaintiff or plaintiffs, shall become no-suit, or discontinue his, her, or their actions, after issue joined, or if on demurrer or otherwise judgment shall be given against the plaintiff or plaintiffs, the defendant or defendants shall recover

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costs, and have the like remedy for the same, as any defendants have by law in other cases; and though a verdict shall be given to any plaintiff in any such action or suit as aforesaid, such plaintiff shall not have costs against the defendant, unless the judge, before whom the trial shall be, shall certify his approbation of the verdict.

And be it further enacted, That all actions, suits, and prosecutions to be commenced against the person or persons for any thing done in pursuance of this act, shall be laid and tried in the county or place where the fact was committed; and shall be commenced within months after the fact committed, and not otherwise.

Provided always, and be it enacted, that it shall be lawful to and for the Lord Lieutenant or other chief governor or governors of Ireland for the time being, to order that any such offender be removed to any house of correction or penitentiary in Ireland, and there kept to hard labour for any term not exceeding the term of confinement which shall then remain unexpired, under the order by virtue of which such offender shall be then so confined; and also to order at any time during the said term, that such offender shall be sent back to such former house of correction or penitentiary for the residue of such time; any thing in this or any other act to the contrary notwithstanding.

DINGLE MEETING.

A most respectable and numerous meeting, held at Dingle, county of Kerry, have paid that tribute to Counsellor O'Connell, which his patriotism, his talents and exertions in the cause of his country so justly merit. The following is an abstract of the proceedings on the occasion:

At a meeting of the Gentlemen Clergy, Magistrates and Freeholders, of the town and vicinity of Dingle, held in that town, on the 13th day of June, 1811, in pursuance of a public requisition.

MATHEW MORIARTY, esq. in the Chair.

Resolved unanimously, that the dignified, firm and patriotic sentiments, delivered by Daniel O'Connell, esq. Barrister at

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Law, at the aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, held in Dublin, on the 28th day of May last, meet our warmest approbation.

That we highly approve of the candid, manly and ingenious manner in which he has developed and laid before the public the machinations of a set of men stiling themselves orangemen and purplemen,—men confederated for the express purpose of putting down the great and growing majority of our countrymen being Catholics,—men who assume to themselves a power unknown to the constitution, and hostile to the Catholics in an alarming degree, dangerous to the peace and good order of this our beloved, though illfated country,—men who have arranged a system of exclusion and controul, forming an *imperium in imperio*, which if not speedily checked by the protecting power of government, and the laws, must necessarily produce the most direful consequences.

Resolved unanimously, that an address be prepared and presented to Counsellor O'Connell expressive of the sentiments we entertain towards him.

Resolved unanimously, That the address now drawn up and read, merits our approbation, and that it be transmitted by our secretary, to Mr. O'Connell.

Resolved that our proceedings, and the said address, and Mr. O'Connell's reply be published.

NICH. CONNOLLY HUSSEY, esq.

In the Chair.

Resolved unanimously, That the particular thanks of the meeting be given to Mathew Moriarty, esq. for his proper conduct in the Chair.

EDWARD FITZGERALD,

Jun. Secretary.

To Daniel O'Connell, esq.

SIR,

We, the gentlemen, clergy, magistrates and freeholders of the town and vicinity of Dingle, assembled pursuant to a public requisition, desire to express to you our sense of your unwearied exertions in advocating the cause of our Catholic countrymen. We are particularly anxious to convey to you our decided approbation of the gallantry, candour, and perspicuity with

which you have, at the aggregate meeting of the Catholics of Ireland, held in Dublin on the 28th ult. developed the tendency of the intended transfer of our militia, and displayed the machinations of those deluded men who style themselves orangemen and purplemen. We anticipate, from your exertion of talent and constitutional firmness, the most beneficial consequences—as that exertion has, we trust, roused, to the consideration of those subjects, every individual who feels interested in the welfare of the country, from the prince to the freeholder. Your object is the same with ours, to prevent internal feuds and animosities, which have been hitherto so injurious to our unfortunate country, and to promote that unanimity, which alone can save and exalt those realms.

We request of you to accept our most cordial thanks, as a small tribute of merit pre-eminently resplendent on every occasion.

And be assured, that it has made an indelible impression on us who repose a pleasing confidence in your exertions, disregarding and despising party-feeling, and looking only to the cause of our native country, equally dear to us all.

Signed,

by order,

EDWARD FITZGERALD,
Junior Secretary.

Mr. O'Connell's Reply.

GENTLEMEN,

Your Address has surprised me almost as much as it has pleased me. I cannot but owe it to private friendship, that you have noticed so humble an individual.—I am proud of your approbation.

The principle on which I have been, and am the advocate of Catholic emancipation, is not confined to Ireland. It embraces the cause of the Dissenters in England, and of the Protestants in the Spanish and Portuguese territories. I need extend it no farther—the crime of intolerance is now confined amongst Christian nations, almost exclusively to England and her allies. Arbitrary as the military ruler of the French may be, and enemy as he is of civil liberty, he has had too much common sense to commit the us-

less and absurd injustice of violating conscience.

For my part, I hate the Inquisition just as much as I do the Orange and Purple system, and for the same reason.—The man who attempts to interfere between his fellow man and his Deity, is to my mind the most guilty of criminals.

You call our country unfortunate—she is unfortunate through the dissension of her children; dissension has degraded the character, and annihilated the constitution.

In the name of the religion of Charity, hate and rancour have been disseminated;

but a brighter era, I trust, approaches and now it is the sound duty of every man who is faithful to his king, and attached to the independence of his native land, to contribute his best exertions to extinguish every cause of animosity, and pretence for disunion.

I have the honour to be,

With great respect,

Your deeply indebted,

And faithful servant,

DANIEL O'CONNELL.

*Merlion-square,
June 17, 1811.*

AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

From May 20, till June 20.

THE fine dry weather which appeared to set in about the 16th of last month, and raised the hopes of the farmers, of a change more favourable for their operations, proved of a short duration. A few days only had elapsed when the rains returned with their usual violence, and have continued ever since with very little intermission to the almost total obstruction of every species of field work; it seems generally believed, that there has not been so wet a season for nearly 40 years, and as it appears to be general, there is reason to fear that the crops will be deficient in almost every part of the kingdom; on all the flat grounds, and heavy wet soils, they are evidently much injured. The potato crops have never been known to be so late in planting, and unless the latter part of the season turns out remarkably fine and free from frosts, it is hardly to be expected they will be productive.

In many parts of the country, both the oats and flax have an unfavourable appearance, except in light open soils.

Wheat in general looks better than any other of the crops, and the produce may probably be such as to compensate for the smallness of the quantity sown this season.

Grain has advanced in price since last report, and oats, oatmeal and potatoes are also looking up.

The hay crops are likely to be abundant in all the dry soils, but great quantities are likely to be lost in some particular districts where the meadows are subject to the overflowing of rivers.

COMMERCIAL REPORT.

THE question of the depreciation of bank notes is established by such indubitable evidence, that it is unnecessary to dwell on the sophistry of those who attempt to evade the certain conclusion, by alleging that bank notes are not depreciated, but gold has risen. In the last report, it was shown that the rise on gold had not taken place in other countries, but from the operation of our paper system, was confined to these countries. From this point of view it must be evident, that landlords have a just claim for some remuneration, if they are paid in a depreciated currency, when such a circumstance was not contemplated at the period of granting the lease; but as discount frequently arises from accidental causes, not entirely depending on the question of depreciation, it would be a

hardship on the tenant to demand from him the full discount of the day. The landlords are in many instances manifesting a disposition to make a reasonable compromise. The depreciation of paper at present, the chief and almost only circulating medium, will be found to bear peculiarly hard on annuitants, and all possessors of fixed incomes. Landlords, persons in trade, farmers, mechanics, and most others, even day labourers by an advance of wages, can find means in the shiftings of traffic to throw a part of the burden off themselves, but annuitants have not the opportunity; they are often helpless already, and the depreciation is likely to increase their burdens.

The rejection of the Bill which proposed to equalize the duties upon Sugar and Grain, was productive of an immediate and powerful effect upon the English market: the demand for all descriptions of Sugar was immediately checked, and the prices of the brown and middling qualities declined considerably. A good deal of business has been done, although the inferior sorts have gone off heavily, and at rather lower prices; but good and strong Sugars, as well as the fine qualities of which the new crop principally consists, are scarce, and being much wanted, have been freely purchased by the Grocers, upon terms fully equal to those which were previously obtained. The sales of Foreign Sugars have been so trifling as to render any particular enumeration of them unnecessary, and while there is scarcely any possibility of re-selling, the disposition to purchase must, necessarily, be very limited.

Connected with this subject is a curious fact, the sugars of the captured islands, which cannot be sold for home consumption, in Great Britain and Ireland, have been offered so low as 17s. per cwt. or less than 2d. per lb. Although this would, we must admit, be a losing price to the holders, yet still the disproportion between sugar without paying the duty, and after the payment is made, is very great, and forcibly demonstrates the injury we individually sustain by wars, and the consequent taxes laid on to support them. Wars enhance the prices of all the articles of life, because as taxes are laid on articles of consumption, both of what we eat and wear, in the prices of them we have to calculate not only the original value of the articles, but the amount of the taxes which are either directly or indirectly laid on to support those fleets and armies which defend distant possessions, and for the other general purposes of war. Considered in a fair point of view, war is an evil, which presses on all ranks of the community, and we have to pay highly for the pleasures which many take in hearing true or exaggerated accounts of the destruction of those with whom their nation is at war. Besides the cruelties of warfare, it is a costly game to play at, even at a distance, and a very expensive gratification of the bad passions.

Coffee is still in a state of great depression. No relief is experienced, either from the small shipments which are occasionally sent to the Mediterranean, or from our home consumption. The stock is already immensely large, and from the abundance of the crops, we may expect heavy additional imports, which will tend still further to reduce the prices, unless the effects of an increasing supply, are counterbalanced by the operation of some political change.

In this country some little revival has taken place in the cotton trade, owing to a demand for a summer supply, but as this trade is almost entirely limited to home consumption, it may be expected that the additional stock will soon be more than commensurate with the temporary demand.

A letter from Liverpool gives the following gloomy prospect of their market for cotton wool.

"Since our last Circular, our Cotton-market has presented nothing to our view, but a continued and uniform depression; increased difficulties have been experienced in effecting sales, and at the close of every week, the prices are found to be lower than those which marked its commencement.—This gradual decline, although naturally resulting from the vast disproportion which exists between the demand and the supply, has, we must allow, been accelerated by the operation of other causes.—Owing to pecuniary necessities, forced sales have frequently been made, at prices under those which were, generally required. The prices which have been obtained in these and similar cases, are certainly lower than what may be reckoned the current rates, but they nevertheless tend to estab-

lish a precedent, by which the dealers have endeavoured to regulate their subsequent purchases. Since the beginning of this year, our supplies have exceeded the quantity taken out of the market by upwards of 45,000 bags, and from the pressure of an immense and accumulating stock, we can scarcely look for any relief, until the sources of consumption are greatly enlarged. From facts like these, it seems reasonable to conclude, that unless the face of affairs should be very materially changed, we cannot calculate upon any decided improvement in our market, and to entertain a hope that this will take place, while the present unnatural order of things remains unaltered, will, we fear, only lead to those disappointments, which have before been so frequently experienced."

The advance of duty on cotton wool imported into Great Britain, appears to have been abandoned, but an additional duty is laid in Ireland, on all imported in vessels not Irish or British built. America only permits the export in their own vessels; between these measures of mutual hostility trade suffers.

It appears that the bank of England is about to issue a number of tokens at 3s. and 1s. 6d. and a bill is brought into parliament to prevent the counterfeiting of them. These tokens in England will probably be similar to the tokens issued by the bank of Ireland. The mint owing to the high price of silver bullion cannot afford to issue a coinage of the established legal value or fineness. The banks step in, and give a depreciated silver currency to suit the paper circulation, either by re-stamping dollars, and charging a higher value on them as is the case with the 6 shillings pieces, or by giving silver with a very large portion of alloy, as in the case of the five pennies, tenpennies and 2s. 6d. pieces. These are steps in the progress of depreciation, and deserve the attention of the intelligent observers of passing events. If by many they are disregarded, the future historian will mark them as so many descending degrees in the scale of public credit.

Exchange on London $9\frac{1}{2}$ to $9\frac{3}{4}$ per cent, and discount on bank notes 13 14 to 15 per cent, have been the general currency of this month in Belfast.

NATURALIST'S REPORT.

From May 20, till June 20.

- May 21...Fine-leaved Pæony (*Pæonia tenuifolia*) flowering.
 22...Pontic Rosebay (*Rhododendron Ponticum*), and Rusty-leaved Alpine Rosebay (*R. ferrugineum*) flowering.
 25...St. Bruno's Lily (*Phalangium Liliastrum*), and Entire-leaved Pæony (*Pæonia Corallina*) flowering.
 26...Grass-leaved Iris (*Iris Graminea*), Medicinal Pæony (*Pæonia officinalis*), and Little Field Mater (*Sherardia Arvensis*) flowering.
 27...Various coloured Iris (*Iris versicolor*), Double Cinnamon rose (*Rosa Cinnamomea*), and Alpine Rose (*Rosa Alpina*), flowering.
 29...Siberian Iris (*Iris Siberica*) flowering.
 30...Spotted Flowered Palmate Orchis (*Orchis maculata*), Meadow Pink, or Cuckoo Flower (*Lychnis Flox Cuculi*), and Yellow Rattle (*Rhinanthus Crista Galli*) flowering.
 June 1...Bulb-bearing Orange-Lily (*Lilium bulbiferum*) flowering.
 2...Irish Rose (*Rosa Hibernica*), and Yellow Flag (*Iris Pseudo Acorus*) flowering.
 5...Medicinal Speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*) flowering.
 6...Medicinal Hedge Mustard (*Erysimum officinale*) flowering.
 8...Oval Leaved Lychnidea (*Phlox ovata*), Narrow-leaved Kalmia (*Kalmia angustifolia*), and Orange Hawk-weed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*) flowering.
 9...Bloody Crane's-bill (*Geranium Sanguineum*), Glaucus Leaved American Upright Honey Suckle (*Azalea viscosa glauca*), and Fairy Fingers (*Digitalis purpurea*) flowering.
 11...Thorny Rose (*Rosa Spinossima*) flowering.
 12...Marsh Hawk-weed (*Hieracium paludosum*) flowering.

- 14...Rough Rose (*Rosa Scabrescula*) flowering.
 16...Umbelled Rose Campion (*Agrostema Flos Jovis*), and Downy-leaved Rose (*Rosa tomentosa*) flowering.
 18...Red Pomponie Lily (*Lilium Pomponium*) flowering.
 19...Willow leaved Spiraea (*Spiraea Salicifolia*), Shrubby Cinquefoil (*Potentilla fruticosa*), and Branching Spider Wort (*Phalangium ramosum*) flowering.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

From the 20th May till the 20th June.

May 21,	.....	Fine.
22,	.....	Light Rain.
23,	.....	Some heavy showers of rain and hail, with thunder.
24,	.....	Heavy showers.
25,	.....	Fine.
26,	.....	Showery.
27,	.....	Cloudy, rain at night.
28,	.....	Wet.
29,	.....	Some light rain.
30,	.....	Heavy rain at night.
31,	.....	Dark dry day.
June 1,	.....	Fine.
2,	.....	Heavy rain, with thunder.
3,	.....	Dark day.
4,	.....	Very wet.
5,	.....	Showery.
6,	.....	Very wet, with some thunder.
7, 8,	.....	Showery.
9,	.....	High drying wind, and some very light showers.
10,	.....	Showery and windy.
11, 13,	.....	Showery.
14,	.....	Wet.
15, 16,	.....	Showery.
17, 19,	.....	Fine.
20,	.....	Showery.

The barometer has during this period been, on the 27th May, 30.—17th June 30.1—18th, 30.3—19th, 30.2—the lowest on the 5th June, 29.2.

The thermometer has been as high as 63 on the morning of the 22d of May, A.M.—on the 24th at 8 A.M. 50.—27th at 8 A.M. 60—on the 17th June at 8 A.M. 60—18th at 8 A.M. 59—19th 59—20th 50.

The wind has been observed 6 times S.E.—15 S.W.—2 N.E.—3 N.W.—3 S.—4 W. so that the prevalence has been evidently southerly.

CELESTIAL PHENOMENA.

FOR JULY, 1811.

(Extracted from Friend's Evening Amusements.)

THE Moon is on the meridian on the 1st, at one minute past eight, having below her but near to the meridian the first of the Balance, and above her at a much greater distance, both from her and the meridian, the second of this constellation. To the east of her we shall notice Mars and the two first stars of the Scorpion.

On the 3d, the Moon is on the meridian at three quarters past nine, having nearly

under her the first of the Scorpion, and below her to the west the second of this constellation; beyond this star we notice Mars, and to the east of the meridian, nearly at the same distance, Saturn. The Moon thus between the two planets, and having under her a star of the first magnitude, will attract our attention.

On the 6th is full Moon at twenty-six minutes past seven in the morning. She rises nearly at the same time with the two first stars of the Goat, whose brightness will be much diminished by her superior splendour.

On the 14th, the Moon rises in the morning under the three first stars of the Ram, and it is soon followed by the small stars in the head of the Whale, but does not pass the line between the first of the Ram and Menkar before sun-rise.

On the 20th, at four minutes past eleven is new Moon.

On the 26th, we perceive that she has passed the five stars in triangle of the Virgin, though the third of this constellation is the nearest star to her.

On the 31st, she is on the meridian at one minute past eight, being directly under the seventh of the Serpent-bearer, the stars in the Scorpion, with Mars, being below her to the west, and Saturn below her, but nearer to her, to the east of the meridian.

The chief planets are morning stars during this month; and a conjunction between Venus and Jupiter taking place, their brilliancy in the north east by east will frequently attract the attention of the early riser.

Mercury is a morning star till the 24th, when he is in his superior conjunction; and as his latitude is south in the first part of the month, he will not often present himself to our view.

Venus is a morning star, her duration above the horizon, before sun-rise on the 1st being an hour and forty minutes; and this duration increases, though very slowly.

Mars is on the meridian on the 1st, at forty-six minutes past eight in the evening, and on the 19th at forty-one minutes past seven, being in the eighth sign and to the south of the ecliptic: he is, when on the meridian, only a little above the middle of the lower regions. As Jupiter and Venus attract attention in the morning, Mars and Saturn will merit it in our evening walks, and the stars in the Scorpion form an agreeable groupe between them.

Jupiter is a morning star, and his duration above the horizon before sun rise is daily increasing, being at first little more than an hour and a quarter. Mercury passes him on the 3d, Venus on the 10th; so that the motion of these planets by him must be highly interesting to the astronomer; and the early riser cannot but be struck at the appearance of these morning stars.

Saturn is on the meridian at forty-seven minutes past ten at night of the 1st, and at twenty nine minutes past nine of the 19th. He is therefore in a favourable position for the observer, being then about the middle of the lower region.

Herschell is on the meridian at eleven minutes past eight in the evening of the 1st, and forty-nine minutes past six of the 21st.

The Sun's apparent diameter on the 1st, is thirty-one minutes, thirty-one seconds, and on the 19th thirty-one minutes, thirty-two seconds. At noon of the 27th it is, half a degree.

ECLIPSES OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES.

1st SATELLITE.				2d SATELLITE				3d SATELLITE.							
<i>Emersions.</i>				<i>Emersions.</i>											
DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS.	H.	M.	S.
5	7	3	57	6	11	3	17	7	1	50	17 Im.				
7	1	32	31	10	0	20	40	7	4	26	29 E.				
8	20	1	10	13	13	38	7	14	5	49	47 Im.				
10	14	29	42	17	2	55	29	14	8	27	0 E.				
12	8	58	19	20	16	12	58	21	9	50	1 Im.				
14	3	26	52	24	5	30	27	21	12	28	16 E.				
15	21	55	29	27	18	47	56	28	13	49	30 Im.				
17	16	24	1	31	8	5	20	28	16	28	45 E.				
19	10	52	37												
21	5	21	8												
22	23	49	43												
24	18	18	13												

Look to the right hand*

1st Sat. continued.			
26	12	46	47
28	7	15	16
30	1	43	50
31	20	12	19

ERRATA.

* Page 389, 2d col. 24th line, for *Utopia*, read *Utopia*.—Page 445, 1st col. 20th line, for *Report*, read *Report*.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several communications came too late for insertion in this number.

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